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TASS: WHITE HOUSE PLANS TO EXCEED SALT II LIMITS

LD280909 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0810 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Washington, 28 May (TASS) -- President Reagan has announced his decision to dismantle two obsolete Poseidon nuclear submarines in connection with the forthcoming start of trials for the new Nevada submarine (of the Ohio type), equipped with 24 launch units for Trident I ICBMs. This means that for the time being the United States formally remains within the framework of the limit allowed by the Soviet-American SALT II treaty of 1,200 units for ICBMs and ballistic missiles on submarines, equipped with multiple independently targeted reentry vehicles.

As observers point out, the White House decision was forced on it. It was made under powerful pressure from American and international public opinion which demand that existing Soviet-American accords on arms control not be undermined; the world must not slip toward a thermonuclear catastrophe. Proof of how widespread such feelings are is the fact that all the U.S. allies support observation of the SALT II treaty. According to an opinion poll, over 75 percent of Americans support strengthening the arms control mechanism. Fifty-two senators have demanded that the U.S. President observe the provisions of the SALT II treaty. A similar letter was also sent to the White House by over half (221) of the members of the House of Representatives. The U.S. State Department also recommended that the SALT II treaty not be undermined.

Announcing the dismantling of the old submarines, the White House at the same time clearly made it understood that in future it will not consider itself bound to the provisions of the SALT II treaty, and retained for itself the "right" to go beyond the limits established by the treaty when carrying out the program to arm B-52 bombers with cruise missiles.

DOBRYNIN WARNS U.S. AGAINST SDI, CHEMICAL ARMS

LD271218 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- The leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet State highly values the scientists' contribution not only to unravelling the mysteries of nature, but also to the concerted efforts designed to guard mankind against the unwise use of scientific achievements, Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee has declared.

He made a report at the second conference of Soviet scientists on problems of peace and prevention of nuclear war here today.

159 scientists from 47 countries are taking part. Dobrynin conveyed to the delegates of the conference a message from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and his wish of fruitful work.

Noting that it was the USSR that initiated a far-reaching programme of ridding mankind of nuclear armaments by the turn of the century, the speaker said, "this plan gives an opportunity for a total elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide to be carried out under strict international control.

This equally applies to the elimination of chemical weapons, their stockpiles and industrial production base, and a ban on the development of non-nuclear weapons based on new physical principles, whose destructive powers are comparable to those of other weapons of mass annihilation.

Now this programme has been supplemented with a proposal to reduce conventional arms and armed forces in the entire European zone from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The historical importance of the latest Soviet proposals is clear. These proposals are realistic because they do not pursue the aims of gaining any unilateral advantages to the Soviet Union, and meet the vital interests not only of our country, our allies and friends, but also of the United States, NATO countries and the peoples of the entire world."

Dobrynin said that peace and military-strategic balance were threatened by the implementation of the Reagan administration's "Strategic Defence Initiative", a graphic example of yet another reckless "escape into technology" in the hope of regaining erstwhile American superiority.

The Soviet response to the development by the U.S. of a large-scale partially space-based anti-missile system would be, as Gorbachev put it, referring to works by Soviet scientists, effective and less costly and could be implemented within a shorter period.

Besides, that in no way implied that the response would necessarily take place in outer space. "We are consistently opposed, however, to the arms race in outer space," the speaker said, "Primarily, because we realize full well what dangerous consequences it may lead to."

The SDI advocates were using arguments with an eye to the scientific community, in particular, claiming that the programme would ensure another breakthrough in technology and stimulate the scientific thought.

"But is it possible to achieve progress in science and technology by subordinating them only to military objectives? On the contrary, only peaceful objectives open up the broadest vistas for scientific endeavours and the application of their results, all for the benefit of man."

On the results of the meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Geneva, Dobrynin emphasized that the USSR had done and would continue to do everything within its power so that the "spirit of Geneva" be embodied in concrete accords. As to the Reagan administration, "it has not made a single, however symbolic, gesture of good will."

Fortunately, the speaker went on, "far from all question of world politics are being handled at the White House alone. We are witnessing the emergence and consolidation of a new mode of thinking, a new approach to peace problems.

A great international response was evoked, for instance, by the results of the concerted activity by Soviet scientists and their foreign colleagues within the organization International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War and the Pugwash movement of scientists."

"A new mode of political thinking presupposes a new, qualitatively higher level of flexibility in foreign policy and a readiness for reciprocal compromises with one's partners in talks. Many political leaders in the West, above all in the United States, often lack, regrettably, this readiness."

"The unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions, recently extended one more time by the Soviet leadership till August 6; this year, is another demonstration of this new thinking. We repeat our appeal to the American state leaders to agree on a ban on nuclear testing."

On new trends in the military-political sphere, currently in the making, Dobrynin said, "our attention should be concentrated on all all-round solution of problems stemming from the task of blocking all channels along which military conflicts are developing."

"This is, firstly, the problem of the norms of conduct of states, including their military activity. Secondly, these are the problems of reducing the military potential, limiting and destroying means of warfare and dismantling the material apparatus of war.

Thirdly, this is the problem of settling local conflicts fraught with the threat of growing into a world war."

The Soviet concept of comprehensive system of international security organically comprised the economic sphere, the speaker pointed out. Study of the diverse problems related to this issue was of great value.

"An answer to the following question is important: How do we see the ways of settling the foreign indebtedness of the developing countries? Yet another problem, important in the long run, is what are the top-priority needs where it would be advisable to direct the means released as a result of disarmament?

"The most effective solution and, probably, any solution in general of the global economic problems can be achieved only by way of combining the national efforts on an international scale, by way of collective actions by all members of the world community of nations," the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee emphasised.

"This cooperation, naturally, calls for the elimination of the elements of discrimination and diktat in economic relations, normalization of the international situation and a reduction in the level of military confrontation."

The speaker said that the Soviet side attached most serious importance to the problem of human rights as an essential factor of peace and international cooperation in this field.

This problem should only be made free of hypocrisy and speculation. Anti-Soviet slander compaigns around the issue of human rights in the USSR became one of the most favourite means employed by the world reaction to whip up international tension.

"We attach immense importance," Dobrynin concluded, "to cooperation that has been growing in recent years between scientists of various countries in the struggle against the nuclear threat.

We believe that by multiplying their efforts, the scientists will continue to be in the vanguard of the struggle for human survival, for the happiness of man and for his future."

ACADEMICIAN VELIKHOV ADDRESSES FORUM ON ARMS CONTROL

LD272039 Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- The nature of modern weapons is such that even the most powerful and refined defences cannot ensure the security of any country, stated Yevgeniy Velikhov, vice-president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He spoke in Moscow today at the Soviet scientists' current all-union conference which is dealing with the problems of peace and the prevention of nuclear war.

Academician Velikhov pointed out the coincidence of the views of scientists of various countries on key problems of our times. He said, in particular, that U.S. colleagues from the Federation of American Scientists are also of the opinion that nuclear war would be the greatest disaster to mankind and that there exists no effective defence against a nuclear attack.

The "limited" war concept, he went on to say, does not hold water, since a nuclear disaster, happening, for example, in the Northern Hemisphere, would inevitably move under the influence of atmospheric processes to the other side. Therefore a nuclear war would have no living witnesses, and it would affect all countries.

A particular danger, Academician Velikhov said, would be posed by a transfer of the arms race to outer space. Soviet and American scientists independently arrived at the same opinion: The U.S. plans for the development of an impenetrable anti-missile defence system with space-based elements are an illusion. The idea is not backed up by any modern scientific or technical notions. "It is quite evident to us that the development of an anti-missile defence system is oriented towards ensuring the impunity of a first strike on the part of the United States. The SDI programme", Velikhov explained, "is part and parcel of Washington's overall military plan based on an offensive nuclear strategy".

PRAVDA REPORTS AKHROMEYEV-BESSMERTNYKH NEWS CONFERENCE

PM261641 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Press Center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] A press conference on nuclear arms limitation issues was held for Soviet and foreign journalists on 23 May at the Press Center of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Taking part in it were Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, and A.A. Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister.

A statement read at the opening of the press conference pointed out that, according to statements by U.S. officials, the U.S. Government is currently considering revising its attitude toward the Treaty on the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT II). Washington, it is reported, is weighing different options: to continue formal observance of the treaty's provisions for a little while yet, to withdraw from the treaty officially, or to "creep" out of it by renouncing the existing limitations as they become an impediment to the development [razveriyvaniye] of U.S. strategic programs. Different options, but amounting to the same thing: one way or another, today or tomorrow, to throw the doors wide open to a race for the most powerful armaments.

In the meantime, the U.S. Administration is again endeavoring to cast a shadow on Soviet policy toward this treaty. The aim is patently obvious: to create a pretext both for U.S. violations of SALT II and for justifying its gamble on a further strategic arms race.

The Soviet side proceeds from the premise that, despite its formal expiration on 31 December 1985, the treaty remains a living and effective document that embodies the results of the many years of USSR-U.S. cooperation in the seventies on halting the nuclear missile arms race and strengthening strategic stability. Of course, the treaty can retain this status for as long as the U.S. side refrains from actions that undermine the basic provisions of this treaty -- which has not been ratified through the fault of the United States.

The predominant significance of SALT II lies in the fact that, founded as it is on the mutually acknowledged principle of equality and identical security, it binds the sides to observe both quantitative and substantial qualitative limitations on the sides' strategic nuclear means. It established not only an initial total level of 2,400 units but also the reduction of this level to 2,250 in the event of the treaty's ratification. Corresponding "ceilings" were stipulated and are in force for the basic groups of strategic systems: 1,320 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles and for heavy bombers with their armament; 1,200 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles (excluding bombers); not more than 820 units for MIRVed ICBMs.

The Soviet side advocates the retention of everything positive hitherto achieved in the sphere of strategic arms limitation. It proceeds from the premise that the observance on a mutual basis of the provisions of SALT II would continue to be of no little importance for the maintenance of the strategic balance and for ensuring favorable conditions for the elaboration of new accords on arms limitation and reduction.

Naturally, we cannot fail to take into account here also the future situation regarding preventing an arms race in space, and U.S. observance of the ABM Treaty -- which the United States is now also undermining. In other words, we will take into consideration the actions of the American side from the viewpoint of their influence on a change in the strategic situation.

If the SALT II Treaty is undermined, then the United States will bear full responsibility for such a course of events.

In these circumstances the Soviet Union will draw the necessary conclusions and adopt measures for the effective assurance of its own security and that of its allies.

The U.S. Government must be aware of this.

Answers were given to journalists' questions.

Question: Previous U.S. Administrations have stated that the SALT II treaty meets the interests of the United States. Why then has it still not been ratified?

Answer: The SALT II treaty undoubtedly meets the security interests both of the Soviet Union and the United States. Assessing the significance of the SALT II treaty, President J. Carter emphasized in his time that "This treaty is the most important step of all those ever made in the context of establishing control over nuclear armaments." The rejection [otkloneniye] of SALT II, Carter observed, would be "a serious blow to peace and the security of the United States." However, during the debate in the United States over the treaty's ratification those circles opposing detente and advocating the buildup of military power and the achievement of military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union prevailed.

As we know, the treaty consolidated the strategic parity between the USSR and the United States. The U.S. refusal to ratify the SALT II treaty untied the hands of these circles. Graphic confirmation of this is the "General Strategic Program" proclaimed 2 October 1981, whose implementation has now reached the stage whereby Washington has been forced to choose: either a further arms buildup or SALT II.

Question: Does the SALT II treaty have any significance at all for curbing the arms race if it has not been ratified and is not being implemented by the sides in full measure?

Answer: Even in the form in which it is in force today the SALT II treaty limits the deployment [razvertyvaniye] of the sides' strategic offensive forces.

At the end of last year, in connection with the commissioning of the seventh "Ohio" class missile submarine, the United States dismantled one "Poseidon" submarine. An eighth "Ohio" class vessel is shortly to begin sea trials. In order to observe the established level of MIRVed missiles the United States will have to dismantle two "Poseidon" submarines.

The Soviet Union has also been cutting its armaments. We regard this as normal. Since the treaty was signed the USSR has dismantled 72 ICBM launch installations and 21 heavy bombers, and overall, in line with the SALT I Interim Agreement and the SALT II Treaty, the USSR has dismantled 540 strategic delivery vehicles while the United States has dismantled 168 units.

Question: Have there been violations of the SALT II treaty by the U.S. side, and what have they consisted of?

Answer: Yes, there are violations. They were dealt with in detail, in particular, in the 27 January 1984 Memorandum, the 12 June 1985 TASS Statement, and in the Soviet-U.S. Standing Consultative Commission.

For example, by deploying in Western Europe its Pershing-2 ballistic missiles and long-range cruise missiles the United States is acting in contravention of Article XII of the treaty, which prohibits the circumvention of its provisions in any way. In terms of reaching our territory these missiles are, with regard to the Soviet Union, a strategic weapon whose capabilities are not inferior to those of an ICBM or submarine-launched ballistic missile.

Question: People in the United States claim that the USSR has created [sozdayut] and is deploying [razvertyvayet] a second new type of ICBM. What is the substance of these claims?

Answer: The Soviet Union has tested [ispytal] only one new type of ICBM -- the RS-22. This is permitted under the SALT II treaty.

In talking about the testing of a second new type of ICBM in the USSR the United States has in mind the RS-12M missile, which is a modernized version [modernizatsiya] of our old RS-12 ICBM. This story is being constructed on a distorted interpretation of the SALT II treaty provisions concerning the composition of the elements included in the so-called "throw-weight" of a missile. These people do not include in the weight of the old RS-12 missile the weight of some of its elements, while on the other hand, in the throw-weight of the modernized RS-12M ICBM, they illegally include all the equipment used only during tests. The aim is clear. The United States has created [sozdali] one new type of ICBM (MX). Now it is creating [sozdayut], in contravention of the treaty, a second new type of ICBM (Midgetman) and it is trying to find a justification for this.

Question: What might be the consequences of a U.S. refusal to observe the SALT II treaty?

Answer: If the United States renounces the treaty, this will remove the limiting devices that for several years now have ensured the maintenance of military-strategic parity between the USSR and the United States. The growth in the sides' strategic potentials in both the quantitative and qualitative respects will be practically unpredictable.

The development of armaments has already rendered the task of their limitation and reduction extraordinarily difficult. If the last remaining limits are eliminated, this task will become many times more complex. Who knows if we will then succeed in achieving an effective agreement curbing the strategic arms race.

Question: Where do you see any differences -- if there are any -- between the approaches to the problems of strategic arms limitation and reduction on the part of the current and previous U.S. Administrations?

Answer: There are differences, and not inconsiderable ones. We have experience with nuclear arms limitation negotiations with the United States under the Nixon, Ford, Carter, and incumbent administrations. We had our differences with the earlier administrations, but there was also the mutual desire to find solutions. The main element that formed the foundation of the negotiations was the principle of equality and identical security. The sides realized that the negotiations were being conducted by states that were approximately equal in terms of strength [po silam] and of issues constituting their fundamental interests. The SALT II treaty was a balanced accounting of the interests of both sides.

The Reagan administration has nullified this foundation. It has abandoned the principle of equality and identical security. Its negotiating line is to compel the USSR to accept its terms and thereby to attain military superiority, to start an arms race in space and continue the arms race on earth. During the 6 years the present administration has been in office nothing has been achieved in questions of arms reduction -- while much has been destroyed.

Question: The Soviet Union has extended its unilateral moratorium. The United States is continuing its nuclear weapon tests. Will this not harm the security of the USSR?

Answer: Indeed, if one side is testing and improving [sovershenstvovat] its nuclear weapons while the other refrains from doing so, then clearly the side that is testing is seeking to obtain definite advantages from this.

But there is yet another important aspect. The side that has introduced a unilateral ban on nuclear tests in the current world situation acquires a great moral and political advantage. The General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces also proceeds from this premise. Yet in order to prevent the dismantling of the military equilibrium in particular, there will be further improvement in the combat training of the Soviet Armed Forces and further enhancement of their capability to reliably ensure the motherland's security.

Question: Reports have appeared concerning the Soviet side's submission at the Geneva talks of a draft agreement on medium-range missiles. Could you explain the substance of this proposal?

Answer: The Soviet delegation had barely placed a draft agreement on the negotiating table when the U.S. side made it public, and moreover gave it a distorted interpretation.

The Soviet Union has indeed undertaken a new constructive step in order to break the deadlock at the talks.

The central provision of the draft is a commitment by the USSR and the United States to eliminate their medium-range missile in Europe -- ballistic and cruise. Measures are envisaged to prevent the circumvention of a future agreement -- in particular the non-transfer of medium-range and strategic missiles to other countries. Moreover, the Soviet side has expressed the readiness to make such a commitment reciprocal. Naturally, the U.S. nuclear allies in NATO would not build up their own corresponding armaments. A broad range of verification [kontrol] measures, up to and including on-site inspection, is provided for.

The draft submitted by the Soviet side represents a serious document. It constitutes a good departure point for Europe's complete liberation from nuclear weapons and provides a powerful stimulus for the galvanization of the talks as a whole.

PRAVDA REPORT ON 16 MAY FOREIGN MINISTRY PRESS CONFERENCE

PM201110 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] A press conference for Soviet and Foreign Journalists on questions concerning nuclear and space weapons talks was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 16 May. It was attended by A.A. Bessmertnykh, USSR deputy foreign minister, and Colonel General N.F. Chervov, chief of a directorate of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff.

A statement at the opening of the press conference said that of late the U.S. Administration has again been spreading fabrications about the USSR's position at the talks on nuclear and space weapons. Official U.S. spokesmen, including the President himself, claim that the U.S. side has made new and far-reaching proposals at the Geneva talks, but Moscow is still failing to reply to them.

Proceeding from the urgent task of releasing mankind from the nuclear threat, the Soviet Union has put forward in the last few months alone an integrated program for the complete and universal elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons by the year 2000. It has put forward new proposals on destroying chemical weapons and on considerably reducing all components of ground forces and tactical aircraft in Europe. In the Political Report to the 27th CPSU Congress, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev presented the innovative and creative Basic Principles of an All-Embracing International Security System. More than 9 months ago the Soviet leadership, displaying state wisdom and a high sense of responsibility, announced a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions and, as M.S. Gorbachev said on 14 May, it has decided to extend it to 6 August this year.

What has the United States done in this time? It has done a great deal, not in the sphere of limiting and reducing arms, but in the sphere of building up all types of arms and in the elaboration of concepts and doctrines to justify the militarization of space and strong-arm aggressive foreign policy methods. The U.S. reluctance to do anything real to curb the arms race was laid bare on the question of halting nuclear weapon tests. As for the Geneva talks on nuclear and space armaments, in the previous four rounds the U.S. side came up with nothing new compared with what it had said earlier, which it knew to be unacceptable. Therefore, the U.S. figures' claim that the United States submitted something new at the talks on 1 November 1985 and 24 February 1986 does not square with the facts.

Equally far from the truth are the U.S. Administration's claims that the aforesaid U.S. proposals have been left unanswered by the Soviet Union.

First, the Soviet side's principled reply consists in the abovementioned far-reaching, large-scale, and well considered proposals. Second, the Soviet side carefully analyzed the proposals submitted by the United States on 1 November 1985 and during the talks with Secretary of State G. Shultz in November 1985, and at the actual talks an official evaluation was made of the proposals and it was demonstrated in detail why they are unacceptable.

In particular, it was stressed that the U.S. proposals sidestep the main issue in the current strategic situation -- how to prevent an arms race in space, because without a ban on space-strike armaments, strategic nuclear arms limitations, not to mention deep cuts, would be meaningless.

As for the U.S. side's thoughts on strategic offensive aramaments, what it in fact has in mind is a buildup of strategic arsenals, although it is supposedly talking about a 50-percent cut.

Instead of the total level mentioned by the U.S. side of 6,000 nuclear charges on strategic delivery vehicles, a level which both sides are supposed to reach, the United States would in fact increase its number of nuclear charges to 15,000, by, for example, omitting the counting some of the nuclear charges on heavy bombers and failing to include long-range sea-based cruise missiles in the cuts.

In connection with the "intermediate agreement" on medium-range missiles contained in the U.S. side's 1 November 1985 proposals, we stated clearly that, under the proposed formula, the United States, in particular, would be able to sharply increase, by more than 100 percent, the number of nuclear charges on its medium-range missiles in Europe, whereas the number of Soviet medium-range missiles would be reduced. Washington's 24 February proposals contained nothing constructive either. In reply to the Soviet proposal on the total elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, the U.S. side reiterated its notorious "zero option," which results in one-sided advantages for the United States and NATO.

Thus, the U.S. line at the talks on nuclear and space armaments is not geared to accords, in fact, it undermines the possibility of reaching any. Basically, the U.S. side has done its best to kill the impetus that was imparted to the talks on nuclear and space armaments by the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva.

If Washington really wanted to help the USSR's efforts to lead the nuclear and space armaments talk out of the impasse, it could do this by switching to a businesslike and constructive discussion of questions at the fifth round of the talks, which started recently.

Question: Could you clarify the USSR's approach to resolving the question of medium-range missiles in Asia?

Answer: Our approach to medium-range missiles in Asia is laid down in the program for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons -- at the second stage these missiles would be eliminated in the eastern part of the country. In that region our medium-range missiles are oppossed by corresponding U.S. medium-range weapons. The USSR is prepared to resolve the question of its medium-range missiles in Asia. But at the same time it is necessary to decide the question of what to do with the U.S. medium-range weapons in the Far East.

Question: In recent days Americans have been talking a great deal about a possible change in the U.S. approach to the SALT II treaty. What can you say about this?

Answer: The Soviet side's view is that observance of the principles of the treaty, which creates barriers to the quantitative growth and qualitative improvement of the most powerful armaments -- strategic arms -- would continue to be of considerable importance for maintaining the strategic balance and ensuring favorable conditions for the elaboration of new accords on limiting and reducing nuclear armaments.

Our position on the SALT II treaty will also depend, of course, on how things stand with regard to preventing the arms race from spreading to space and U.S. observance of the ABM Treaty. The first test of future U.S. intentions with regard to SALT II should come when the next U.S. "Ohio"-class submarine begins sea trials. Unless the United States takes appropriate steps it will exceed the treaty's armaments limit of 1,200 units on ICBM's and MIRVed submarine-launched ballistic missiles. To observe the limit, it will have to dismantle the appropriate number of existing armaments.

The second test of the U.S. side's intentions will obviously come twoard the end of the year, when, by equipping bombers with long-range cruise missiles, the United States will reach the treaty ceiling of 1,320 units for MIRVed ballistic missiles and heavy bombers with cruise missiles.

Washington is now saying that whereas in the first case the United States may still observe the limit, in the second case it will not. At the same time it is intended to launch a propaganda campaign accusing the USSR of alleged "noncompliance" with SALT II. The purpose is to find a pretext for relieving the United States of the restrictions that were agreed by the sides under the treaty.

Thus it is a matter of an intention to grossly violate the treaty and "wriggle" out of it by getting rid of provisions as they become obstacles to new U.S. military programs. If this happened, the United States would bear full responsibility for the consequences. The USSR would draw its own conclusions and take steps to protect its own security and the security of its allies and prevent the balance established by the treaty from being upset.

Question: The U.S. President says that he has instructed the U.S. delegation at the talks on nuclear and space armaments to "act flexibly." How do you view this statement and what instructions have been given to the Soviet delegation?

Answer: The word "flexibility" seems to be all the rage with the current administration. Before each of the previous four rounds the U.S. President maintained that he was instructing his delegation to behave "flexibly." But as the talks themselves have shown, either the U.S. delegation did not carry out its President's instructions, or the concept of "flexibility" has been given a new meaning. For why, round after round, has the United States maintained an ossified, paralyzed stance?

As for the soviet delegation, as is done before each round, it has been given creatively worked out instructions.

If the U.S. side behaves responsibly, seriously, and really flexibly, the talks will immediately be specific and fruitful.

Some other questions posed by journalists were also answered.

'TOP PRIORITY' PANEL DISCUSSES DISARMAMENT

LD261733 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 25 May 86

["Top Priority" discussion program hosted by Pavel Kuznetsov with Prof. Radomir Bogdanov and Prof. Sergey Plekhanov, both from the USSR Institute for United States of America and Canada Studies -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Hello, I am Pavel Kuznetsov, your host on today's edition of "Top Priority." Our usual panel are Professors Radomir Boganov and Sergey Plekhanov, of the Moscow-based Institute for USA and Canada Studies. And the topic for today is the Soviet plan for nuclear disarmament by the end of this century, which was advanced on 15th January by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. We all remember the tremendous response the Soviet proposal has generated. Interest in it has not subsided even now, although much has been done by the critics of the three-stage plan to kind of neutralize the effects of this proposal, its impact on world opinion. You know, the terrible misfortune at Chernobyl was used to give a blow to arms control, although that accident had dramatized our common vulnerability to the sinister force of the atom when it gets out of control.

Anyway, at Radio Moscow we still keep receiving many letters concerning the Soviet plan and the overwhelming majority of these letters are very, very positive. However, we do receive some letters which I will describe -- which I would describe as kind of negative or responses containing fairly strong reservations. Approximately, out of 10 or 15 letters, positive letters, 1 is negative and they fall into what I believe are three basic categories. I suggest that we discuss these categories one by one. Well, I'd like to begin with the people who are -- who sound the most aggressive. They accuse us of almost every mortal sin and they say that as long as we are different, socially, politically, no disarmament is possible. What is your opinion to such an approach in Soviet-American relations, Dr. Bogdanov?

[Bogdanov] You know, I quite understand our American listeners over there, with their doubts, with their, you know, worries. They would be surprised, our American listeners, if they will find out at this end as many people, like them, also putting the same question: Are we really able to have any normal, decent relations with the Americans? I agree that mistrust, mistakes, some very unfortunate developments in Soviet-American relations, are really building a kind of a mountain of mistrust which is very unhelpful in building, you know, real base for cooperative Soviet-American relations. And if we concentrate on how to avoid that, then it's one thing. If we concentrate our efforts on how to build another mountain of this mistrust, it's another thing. What we suggest to the United States, what we suggest to the whole world, that's our belief how we should deal with this ominous common danger. [sentence as heard] If somebody else has other suggestions of a positive kind we are open to discuss it, we are open to integrate it into our plan. But the problem is that so far what we hear from the administration people, you see -- we hear only no without any constructive proposals, you know, any constructive proposal. They take our plan stage by stage and criticize it without contributing into, maybe, what to change, to correct, what else to suggest, and things like that.

[Kuznetsov] What I had in mind when I described the people of this category was that they go by a very simple, simplistic rather, formula: Now you support national liberation movements, we don't; let's have no business with the Soviet Union because, for example, it supports Nicaragua or stands by Libya.

Now, I haven't heard a single Soviet official say that since the White House is on the side of South Africa, of the regime of apartheid, which kills hundreds and hundreds and thousands of people, let's have no business with America.

[Plakhanov] That's right. Well, there is an English saying: Cutting one's nose to spite one's face; and this is what, I think, this viewpoint boils down to. There are many differences that we have with the United States but we have overriding common interests and the major area of common interest is survival. Either we die together or we survive together, and we can survive only by means of limiting, reducing nuclear weapons and eliminating them altogether in the final analysis before they eliminate us. But the problem of trust, I think, is very important, very important. When our listeners in the United States raise this problem, I think they should do a little soul-searching and ask themselves where do they get information about the Soviet Union? The way the American media has monopolized control over the minds of the American people is astounding. No other country is that isolated from alternative sources of information about the world as Americans are. And, well, there are examples of good media work but I'm afraid that for each example of objective reporting about the Soviet Union, one can find dozens of examples of blatant untruths, distortions, and so on. But the glaring example is coverage of the Chernobyl accident. I saw the other day the front page of the New York DAILY NEWS from early May and there in bold type, you know in huge letters, there is: 15,000 Dead in Mass Graves. Yes, there is an anti-Soviet bias in the way news from the Soviet Union is reported by the American media.

[Bogdanov] But, but -- I'm sorry for interrupting you -- not only anti-Soviet bias, there is a lack of simple human logic.

[Kuznetsov] Let's go back at this point to the Soviet disarmament plan, and I'd like to describe in a nutshell the kind of people that I put in the second category. Well, by and large they agree that we would be better off with the nukes, but they say that the Soviet plan is pie in the sky, it's utopia, and -- as one listener put it -- we'd much rather have disarmament happen today than in 15 years, because with time more problems will develop. And he went on to say about what you've touched upon already, he mentioned mistrust between governments, and it is the major stumbling block, so he suggested instead of governments the whole issue of disarmament should be put in the hands of the working man, rank and file people.

[Bogdanov] I cannot believe that mistrust in that [as heard] plays a very big role. But let me put it the other way round: You know, what is the new phenomena of today? Say, before the Second World War bad politics was a source of arms race, now it's vice versa. Arms race is a source of bad politics, you know. Arms race generates bad relations between the states; that's why we say that's the source of the danger. Let's deal with the arms race -- by the way, let me remind our listeners that disarmament, arms control, is a reality. We have some very major achievements in our Soviet-American relations. ABM Treaty: that's the major thing we have achieved on which still the whole system of arms control is based. We have some other very important treaties. So if somebody is disillusioned -- I'm also not very much optimistic but still it is possible; I believe it is possible. What is really needed is peace, words we have more than enough.

[Kuznetsov] Let's go back to the final category of listeners who object to the Soviet disarmament proposal. It's a rather curious category of people. They say: Well, you over there in Moscow, in the Soviet Union, don't know whom are you dealing with. As long as we have this administration you will have no success with it. I tend to agree with these people in view of some latest reports concerning some major Soviet-American agreements.

It's the SALT II treaty, a tentative decision by the White House to break out of it at the end of the year when they add more long-range cruise missiles to their existing fleet of B-52 strategic bombers. Now the latest report last Monday, one of the top government officials, administration officials, suggested that if Congress does not support the SDI the United States will break out of the ABM Treaty, will reconsider its commitment to the ABM Treaty of 1972. Now take the decision to produce and deploy chemical weapons, the so-called binaries, and the refusal to join us in the nuclear test ban, the moratorium on nuclear tests.

[Bogdanov] My answer -- I don't know whether you will agree with me or not -- my answer to all your questions is that this administration wants to bring their America into the next century with a very, very far, high superiority, military superiority, over the Soviet Union and over the whole world. That's why they are doing all that. That's my answer to you, I don't know, what is your opinion?

[Plekhanov] Well, I agree that this is their purpose but that doesn't mean that they will be able to do it.

[Bogdanov] Oh yes, yes.

[Plekhanov] Everybody in this world faces a problem of intentions and real possibilities. Now, our position on disarmament is not based on a desire of doing something that will please the Reagan administration. Our position is based on our perception of what the world's reality is; it is based on what must be done by the world, by the Soviet Union, the United States, other nations in order to reduce the danger of nuclear war. And the fact that the Reagan administration has not responded positively to our proposals need not discourage us from continuing to advance and to develop our position on disarmament. (?In) the first place, Reagan administration is only a few hundred people and there are 5 billion people in the world. And so I think that there must be a lot of work done in persuading the people, the public opinion [words indistinct] explaining what we mean, explaining why it is necessary. We've got to be very very patient, very very patient, but very persistent: persistent in pursuing our principles, which we think are right, and if you're persuaded that you're right you will not drop your principles because somebody else decides [words indistinct]

[Kuznetsov] [Words indistinct] our strong belief is that arms control supercedes the social, political and whatever other differences that exist. This is problem no 1. I would not say arms, I would say disarmament. [Sentence indistinct].

LOMEYKO DISCUSSES IAEA, DISARMAMENT ISSUES

LD271637 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- The recently concluded session of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna can be regarded as a concrete step along the lines of broadening international cooperation in the field of creating a regime of safe development of the nuclear power industry, stated Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He answered questions posed by Soviet and foreign correspondents here today during a briefing dealing with current policy matters.

This session, Vladimir Lomeyko pointed out, supported the Soviet initiative on convening a special international conference under IAEA auspices, a conference which is to work out a series of measures to create an international regime of safe development of the nuclear power industry on the basis of close cooperation among all IAEA member-countries. The Soviet proposals on establishing a system of prompt notification and provision of information in the event of breakdowns and malfunctions at nuclear power stations were supported as well.

In answer to a question about the visit of a group of British parliamentarians to the USSR, Vladimir Lomeyko said that Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during the conversation with the British parliamentarians had once again set out the USSR's stand on the problems of limiting nuclear arms and achieving disarmament. Soviet proposals, including those which are more detailed, had been once again brought up for Britain's consideration.

It had been emphasised, in particular, that if Britain officially takes a decision to eliminate nuclear weapons in its territory, the Soviet Union would be ready to reduce its nuclear potential in an equivalent manner. The proposal is of tangible concrete character. Besides, it had been added that if Britain simultaneously removes foreign nuclear weapons from its territory, the Soviet Union would also guarantee that its nuclear weapons would not be trained on Britain's territory and would never be used against that country.

Putting forward these proposals, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman said, the Soviet Union takes into account the wishes of the British public at large, that is interested to know what guarantees can be there if Britain does not have nuclear weapons in its territory and what measures would be taken on the part of the Soviet Union if Britain eliminates its nuclear weapons.

Thus, Vladimir Lomeyko emphasised, the Soviet Union not only advances proposals on solving the problem of nuclear arms from the viewpoint of their elimination by the year 2000 but also develops the proposals with due regard for the wishes of other countries. Such a stand once again shows the Soviet Union's constructive approach to the problem of eliminating nuclear weapons as the core of the problem of preventing a nuclear catastrophe.

LOSEV WRITES ON U.S., FRG ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN

LD271352 Moscow TASS in English 1327 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- Official Washington and Bonn are now denying with affected indignation that on the first days after the accident at the nuclear power plant in Chernobyl they initiated an unbridled anti-Soviet campaign in the West and were lying deliberately, maliciously and disgracefully.

Yet, it was precisely so, deplorably, exactly the case, albeit delighting in other people's misfortune, the more so gloating over it, is in the eyes of any people sheer baseness, Sergey Losev points out in his article in the Moscow magazine "OGONYOK".

They put to use most unscrupulous and low-grade faked reports: From colour drawings of the fourth unit of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant to faked film sequences of a cement works shrouded in smoke in Trieste, Italy, which they were trying to present for a film of the Soviet nuclear power plant "on fire".

The FRG ruling circles were particularly zealous in assisting the Reagan administration in that sordid campaign. On the eve of the 45th anniversary of the Nazi Germany's attack against the Soviet Union some people in Bonn sank so low as to demand from our country "a compensation" for the losses they allegedly suffered. The Hitler relics have apparently forgotten that they owe an unredeemable debt to the Soviet Union for the crimes they perpetrated, the destruction and suffering they caused to our country, to every Soviet family.

Those who organised that malicious and extremely immoral campaign, apparently needed, as Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in his television address, a pretext to try to discredit the Soviet Union, its foreign policy, lessen the impact of the Soviet proposals on ending nuclear testing, on eliminating nuclear weapons and simultaneously bring down the mounting wave of criticism of the U.S. conduct in the international arena and its militaristic policy, the author of the article points out.

As Sir Geoffrey Howe, British foreign secretary admitted in a BBC interview, some people in the West, and London was no exception, had proved to be capable of turning the human tragedy into political soccer.

Sergey Losev recalled that in 1979 it took the U.S. authorities ten days to notify the Congress about the catastrophe at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant, although in the opinion of radiology Professor Ernest Sternglass of Pittsburgh University, radiation then was equal in its effect to a nuclear bomb explosion.

And now the same people, the article goes on to say, are impudent enough to accuse the Soviet Union of "imcomplete information", of "uncivilised" conduct, are calling in question the exact data about the number of casualties on the first day of the accident, when, as the readers remember, two persons died, the article continues. These Neanderthal men of the atomic age wished for some reason that there should be mountains of corpses near Chernobyl.

The organisers of all that song and dance, Sergey Losev stressed, could not care less either about truthful information or the destiny of Soviet people. Sergey Losev quotes Hans Blix, IAEA director general, as saying that in his homeland newspapers frontpaged a report that he had been allegedly exposed during his visit to the USSR to a dose of radiation exceeding the level permissible for a member of the personnel of a nuclear power plant in the course of a year. Hans Blix said that he had to undergo a medical check as a result of which it had been found that the dose of radiation in his body did not exceed the dose to which a person is exposed in the course of dental x-ray photography.

When staying in Moscow and in Chernobyl, Hans Blix said, we received truthful information about the state of things. The Soviet Union is ready for cooperation on the basis of our agency. This means that international cooperation may bring about valuable results.

The new Soviet proposals of May 14 are opening the way for true international cooperation with the aim of ensuring security in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The Soviet Union's decision to extend its unilateral moratorium on nuclear testing till August 6 this year, which is motivated by universal humane considerations, provides a unique opportunity to stop slipping down to a nuclear catastrophe and start the process of nuclear disarmament, Sergey Losev emphasized in conclusion.

BERNE CONFERENCE ON HUMAN CONTACTS CONCLUDES

Delegation Leader Addresses

LD272003 Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Bern May 27 TASS -- TASS correspondents Yevgeniy Korzhev and Yuriy Vykhodtsev report:

Yuriy Kashlev, leader of the USSR delegation, speaking today at the concluding meeting of the conference of experts on people-to-people contacts, emphasised that the Soviet delegation throughout the conference had consistently came out in favour of a detailed, businesslike and balanced discussion, in a constructive, non-confrontational spirit, of all aspects of the item on the development of contacts between people, institutions and organizations, the way they are recorded in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference and in the final document of the Madrid follow-up meeting.

Seeking the attainment of concrete results, and not propagandistic competition, the Soviet delegation consistently pursued this line, not yielding to vociferous and at times overtly provocative speeches by some Western representatives. Socialist countries submitted a whole number of concrete proposals covering practically the entire spectrum of mass contacts between millions of people, between institutions and organizations. The USSR delegation, in particular, suggested a recommendation of fundamental importance: on refinement of administrative rules and practice concerning matters of entry and exit for reasons of reunification of families and meetings on the basis of family ties with due regard for appropriate international agreements.

The Soviet Union, the speaker pointed out further, shows in its actions a new philosophy and a new thinking which correspond to the realities of the present-day with an eye to the future, which is necessary for all the peoples to ensure security, cooperation and mutual understanding and to move on to a new stage of international relations.

Yuriy Kashlev expressed satisfaction with the realistic approach by many other delegations and, first of all, by neutral and non-aligned countries, which made it possible for the first time collectively to work out a unique document on people-to-people contacts.

The actions of Washington which frustrated the adoption of a final document were described by the Soviet representative as 'political striptease' which convincingly showed for the whole world to see the U.S. hypocrisy and U.S. disregard for the interests of other peoples, including European ones. This is a continuation of the philosophy which manifests itself in the bombardment of other countries, in the killing of innocent ordinary people, in nuclear tests which are continued in defiance of the demands of the whole world, in the deployment of new "Pershing-2" missiles, and in "star wars" preparations.

The Soviet delegation holds that the final negative chord struck at the Bern conference cannot cancel out the entire amount of useful work done and the fact that the conference succeeded in working out a big and important document and in coordinating it unanimously -- with only one exception. This cannot but inspire optimism with regard to the Helsinki process which goes on and develops.

U.S. Creats 'Difficulties'

LD272310 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 27 May 86

[Vladimir Dmitriyev report from Berne]

[Text] The conference of experts on human contacts ended today in Berne. It was held in accordance with the final document of the Madrid meeting of the CSCE states. One of the three main sections of the Helsinki Final Act determines the principles of cooperation between the European countries, the United States and Canada in the humanitarian fields, and it was these issues which were at the center of attention of the experts from the participant countries of the all-European conference, who gathered in Berne in order to exchange experiences and work out appropriate recommendations to their governments to ensure the further development of the Helsinki process. The U.S. representatives attempted to work at imposing on other states their own concepts that contradict the very spirit of Helsinki. At the same time they brought into play all kinds of speculation concerning alleged violations of human rights and the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act by the Soviet Union.

As for the Soviet Union, its attitude toward the Helsinki process as a whole determined our country's approach to the Berne conference. The USSR regards cooperation in the humanitarian field, along with the achievement of progress in the military, political, and economic spheres, as one of the foundations of an all-embracing system of international security. Guided by this, the Soviet delegation and the representatives of the other socialist countries put forward a whole range of important proposals aimed at deepening the development of the all-European process. It is thanks to the socialist countries' constructive and firm stance at the Berne conference that, despite the difficulties created by the U.S. delegation, a compromise draft final document was drawn up. However, the U.S. representatives used their right of veto to torpedo the adoption of this final document. It is indicative that even Washington's closest allies dissociated themselves from the U.S. delegation's irresponsible stance and expressed regret over the U.S. behavior. In their concluding speeches many heads of delegations pointed out that, despite this behavior, which runs against the interests of the European peoples, the exchange of opinions held in Berne was, nonetheless, useful and frank. On the whole, the conference gave a positive assessment of what has been achieved along the road of the many years of development of human contacts in the spirit of Helsinki, and showed the profound interest Europeans have in using the experience gained to improve the content and forms of humanitarian cooperation and expand the Helsinki process for the sake of strengthening peace and trust between the peoples of the continent.

U.S. Vetoes Final Document

LD271402 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Berne May 27 TASS -- An expert conference on contacts between people, institutions and organizations, which was under way here since April 15 in the framework of the Helsinki process, ended today.

The issues of multilateral cooperation in promoting such contacts occupy an important place in the European process and in strengthening security and trust among nations.

Proceeding from this, the delegations from the socialist, neutral and non-aligned countries sought the elaboration of mutually acceptable recommendations. But the U.S. representatives, acting on direct instructions from Washington, actually vetoed an agreed final document, disregarding thereby the clearly expressed desire of the other participants to take another step forward in the humanitarian field, which affects the interests of millions of people.

This approach to negotiations caused broad condemnation in the conference circles.

UN SESSION ON AFRICAN ECONOMIES OPENS

LD271530 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] New York May 27 TASS -- The U.N. General Assembly's special session on the critical economic situation in Africa opened here today. The session is being attended by 22 foreign and financial ministers and by President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, chairman of the Organization of African Unity. The session has been convened with a view to comprehensively considering the socio-economic problems of the continent. The African countries' attempts at ensuring genuine economic independence encounter the resistance of imperialist powers and monopolies which predatorily exploit the natural, manpower and financial resources of African countries.

'Economic Terrorism' Condemned

LD272323 Moscow TASS in English 2115 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] New York May 28 TASS -- Yesterday's colonialists would like to barter loans and credits for African countries' political independence gained in a persistent struggle against imperialism. This is economic terrorism on the part of imperialism, stated Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR. He spoke at the U.N. General Assembly's special session aimed at considering the critical economic situation in Africa. The session opened here on Tuesday.

The Soviet representative condemned any attempts at making use of the critical economic situation in African countries for interfering in their home and foreign policies, for ultimately blocking the process of economic emancipation of the continent, and for undermining its economic security. He stated full support for the African countries' just demands, addressed to the industrially developed countries of the West, for the compensation of the damage being done by their selfish policy to the economic and social development of the continent.

Many African countries, owing to the USA's and South Africa's policy in Africa, find themselves drawn into the arms race which has a painful effect on their economies, Vorontsov pointed out. If the funds which are now siphoned off by the arms race -- and they amount to an astronomical sum of almost 1,000,000 million dollars every year -- were used for peaceful purposes, hunger, epidemics, illiteracy and economic backwardness could have been done away within the shortest possible time, the leader of the Soviet delegation pointed out.

Touching upon the USSR's proposal to create an all-embracing system of international security in the military, political, economic and humanitarian fields, the Soviet representative said: "We also thought of African countries whose economic security is in jeopardy, remembered numerous facts of the use of the economic difficulties of African countries by imperialism for interference in their internal affairs, and bore in mind the unlawful 'sanctions' by a number of other Western countries against Libya, the establishment of an economic blockade of Lesotho by the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa, and many other such actions".

The representative of the USSR came out in support of the proposal on the convocation of an international conference on the foreign indebtedness of Africa and in favour of considering this problem in the context of the search for just ways for a global settlement of the foreign indebtedness of the 'Third World' as a whole, and expressed solidarity with the African countries' struggle for the strengthening of sovereignty over natural resources and over all economic activities.

Not to curtail, as the West insists, but, on the contrary, to strengthen the role of the state sector, to give greater scope to planned economic management methods, and to raise the efficiency of managing national economic transformations, including democratic agrarian reforms -- this is the way radically to solve the task of overcoming backwardness at an accelerated pace, Yuliy Vorontsov said.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD251817 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 15 May 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with Rudolf Georgiyevich Kolchanov, deputy editor in chief of TRUD; Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, deputy editor in chief of MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHOUNARODNYYE OTHNOSHENIYA; and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, Central Television and All-Union Radio Political Observer]

[Text] [Zholkver] Hello, comrades. At the center of attention of international observers last week was the visit to our country by the head of the Spanish Government. As you know, at its regular meeting the CPSU Central Committee Politburo noted that the constructive nature of the talks, meaning the talks between the Soviet leadership and Spanish Prime Minister Gonzalez, provide the opportunity for the continued broadening of mutual understanding and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Spain in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the strengthening of peace, trust and security in Europe and beyond.

I think that overall the Soviet-Spanish talks in Moscow went beyond the framework of just bilateral relations. Indeed, during the Soviet-Spanish talks, and particularly during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's meeting with Felipe Gonzalez, note was made of one of the most important features of the world today: the rapid growth of the mutual links and mutual dependence between the countries of our planet. There are a whole number of vitally important questions that are posed for all countries by our nuclear and space age. Chief among them is the ending of the arms race and elimination of the threat of nuclear war. What is needed to solve these problems is new thinking and new approaches in world politics. Our country vividly demonstrates both. We propose embarking on the steps that are easiest to take -- the liquidation of medium-range missiles in Europe and the ending of nuclear tests -- but what at the same time do we see in the West?

[Lebedev] Yes, there is now a colossal difference in this approach to the world situation, and there are in general fundamental differences in the degree of responsibility for what is happening.

As far as our country is concerned -- and you have already mentioned this, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, but I will simply recall -- there has been a very broad response and positive discussion throughout the world on our new pledge, which was adopted unilaterally, for a moratorium on nuclear weapons tests which the Soviet Union is unilaterally extending until 6 August -- in other words, the anniversary of the day that the Americans subjected Hiroshima to nuclear bombing.

Of course our country is right to expect at least some sort of good-will gesture from the other side. So far the reply is unambiguous: In Nevada there has been another nuclear weapon test designed, by all appearances, for the star wars program. Since we unilaterally announced the moratorium last year, 11 explosions have been carried out in Nevada. Currently the United States and its allies are trying to conceal this stance of theirs by making unseemly use of speculation about the tragedy that happened at the Chernobyl AES. The speculative nature of this stance becomes particularly striking when at the same time moralizing phrases are pronounced to the effect that Washington is concerned for the safety of its own citizens, the citizens of other countries, and so on.

However, this tragedy has led many seriously minded politicians to recognize one very important truth of our age -- namely the need for new political thinking and the new approaches that our leader is calling for. That understanding was shown in particular in something that was said by Egon Bahr, one of the leaders of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] in the FRG. He said: The conflagration in Chernobyl showed vividly what many people did not want to see -- that Europe has a home, and its inhabitant share both its security and its dangers. That very important conclusion is, of course, significant and symptomatic, but at the same time, unfortunately, far from everyone thinks in the same way as the SPD leader.

[Kolchanov] During the Chernobyl tragedy I was in the United States, and I witnessed how shamelessly and inhumanly U.S. official propaganda, not to mention the gutter mass media, misrepresented the event and distorted it in how they presented it. That event pushed aside other events, as if no nuclear weapon tests were being conducted, as if there were no aggressive attacks being carried out against Libya, as if there were no other manifestations of the banditlike, inhuman face of U.S. imperialism. And yet for all the tragedy of Chernobyl, if you compare what could happen in the event of a nuclear war being unleashed -- although the comparison here is wrong because they are so striking...

[Zholkver, interrupting] You were speaking, Rudolf Georgiyevich, about the unscrupulousness, so to speak, of the major U.S. press -- and the same thing goes for U.S. television, too. It is interesing that now, under the pressure of self-evident and sometimes scandalous facts, the U.S. mass media are having to beat a retreat. Two U.S. television companies -- NBC and ABC -- have now apologized for showing what was in fact an evident fraud. They showed pictures allegedly depicting the fire in Chernobyl, but afterward it turned out that the pictures were taken in Trieste and that they showed clouds of gas and smoke in that Italian city. Now U.S. television companies have apologized to their viewers, while the UPI agency has just reported that after a thorough investigation it can no longer support what it worte about the incident at Chernobyl AES when it said that 2,000 people were killed as a result of the accident.

[Kolchanov] The U.S. mass media were pursuing several aims at the same time, or rather the single aim of slandering the Soviet Union. Particularly wide currency was given to the view that the Soviet Union was creating a threat not only for itself, but for other peoples as well.

But what about the nuclear tests in Nevada? Is that not a threat to other peoples? And what about the preparations for star wars? Is that not a threat to other peoples? And is not the NATO decision on chemical weapons a threat to all peoples? -- in particular to the European peoples, because it was especially about the manufacture of binary weapons designed to be deployed in Western Europe. On 1 October the conveyor belt of chemical death will be started up in the United States, and...

[Lebedev, interrupting] Incidentally, Rudolf Georgiyevich, excuse me, but I would like to ask you a question. Can one really seriously believe the statements resounding across the ocean, in the United States, that for 17 years that conveyor belt has not produced anything, that no chemical weapons have been produced at all, that the production of allegedly...

[Kolchanov, interuppting] Of course a very great deal of them have been produced, and this is shown, among other things, by the numerous leaks of chemical substances, both in the United States and in Europe itself. Now a new program is being put forward, one that will cost many billions of dollars and will bear a correspondingly great danger.

[Zholkver] Yes, there are the old chemical weapons, so to speak, and the new ones. I have read in the West German press a number of reports that the U.S. chemical weapon depots in the FRG now contain enough chemical charges to annihilate the entire population of Europe. It is interesting how the NATO leadership and the Pentagon are now playing on the mood of the Europeans who are demanding the liquidation of chemical weapons. They are promising the Europeans that they will remove these old weapons that have gone rusty in a number of cases, thus leading to leaks, and that the new chemical weapons will be brought into Western Europe from the United States only in a crisis.

[Kolchanov] But who, Aleksandr Vladimirovich -- and a question for you, too [referring to Lebedev] -- who determines this crisis?

[Zholkver] And who creates it? The analogy is quite obvious, and people in Western Europe itself have started speaking about it. As everyone knows, the raids by the U.S. Air Force on Libya were carried out from NATO bases in Britain. The U.S. aircraft carriers from which the raids on Libya were carried out used NATO ports in Italy as a base. In this case the Americans acted without asking the agreement of their NATO allies, and now very many people are emphasizing that the Americans themselves will create a fresh crisis, and on this basis bring new, additional chemical weapons into Western Europe. This greatly worries many people there.

[Kolchanov] A crisis can be created, or it can simply be proclaimed, and the chemical weapons can be brought in on this basis. But incidentally, what exactly is the attitude of the European states toward checmical weapons? It is not the same everywhere, is it?

[Zholkver] Indeed, an unusual situation has developed. At the latest NATO sessions almost half of the U.S. allies, or more accurately, 6 out of 13, spoke out against the plans for chemical modernization. It is true that after that, Perle, assistant to the U.S. defense secretary, bluntly said: We do not intend to grant to any country the right to veto U.S. programs for binary weapons.

[Lebedev] Yes, at the moment discussion of banning chemical weapons and the attitudes toward this problem once again demonstrate the same two approaches to key problems in world politics.

Moreover, what is important in my view is that the division does not simply set apart, so to speak, world socialism, the socialist community, and NATO countries. No, this division goes deeper than a differentiation. We see that a realistic approach, a responsible approach, is also being demonstrated by a number of political forces in the West. In particular, the recent meeting in Prague of representatives of the CPCZ, of the GDR's SED and the FRG's SPD, also became evidence of this. There was discussion at this meeting of a very interesting joint initiative of these political forces to create a zone in Europe free of chemical weapons. The SPD, as we all know, is one of the most influential political forces in Western Europe.

As far as the Soviet Union and its allies are concerned, then, our position is clear. Recently at the Geneva disarmament conference Soviet representatives again put forward constructive proposals that could lead to a very rapid conclusion of a convention on banning chemical weapons and liquidating their stocks; monitoring measures do not create any kind of difficulty here -- despite what the Americans try to affirm -- because we are ready to accept very effective measures of monitoring and inspection, including on-site inspection.

[Kolchanov] In my view this is another fact that proves that Europe can and should do a great deal. It should, because it ought to remember its history. It is there that both World Wars I and II began. It can do a great deal -- this is also proved by its historical experience. It suffices to remember the Helsinki accords, the Final Act, and subsequent events. Political contacts between European states have become more intensive. Scientific, technological, and economic ties have become even wider and deeper, and cultural and sports ties. Europe has become closer. Europe has become nearer. Europe can do a great deal.

[Zholkver] Yes. This very fact is confirmed by the example of one of the latest sessions of the West European Parliament in Strasbourg. For the very first time the question of all-European cooperation in the sphere of security was considered there. The West European Parliament came out for holding consultations with the Soviet Union on this question and came out in favor of considering, in this West European community, the proposal by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on banning chemical weapons.

[Kolchanov] Of course there are many paths toward strengthening European peace and security, and in my view one of the important ones is the successful completion of talks in Vienna and Stockholm. I will touch on the Vienna talks for a moment. I have had many opportunities to be in the Vienna Hofburg Palace, and at various times to be an eyewitness at these talks. You know that they have already started calling these sections or sessions of these talks "rounds", hinting both at the hardening...

[Zholkver, interrupting] You mean the talks on reducing armed forces and weapons in central Europe?

[Kolchanov] Yes, quite right, Aleksandr Vladimirovich. And you know, nonetheless, despite the tough position of the West and the constant resistance of socialist countries, the Soviet Union is constantly looking for ways to overcome these obstacles in order to reach a positive result. I will recall the socialist countries' draft that we introduced on 20 February. This is a draft agreement on the initial reduction of ground troops and weapons by the Soviet Union and the United States, with a subsequent non-increase of the levels of armed forces and weapons by the sides, and related measures in central Europe.

Insofar as Western countries are not ready for a major reduction in ground troops, we propose that the troops of the USSR and the United States be reduced by 11,500 and 6,500 people respectively; moreover, what is very important, not by pulling out individual soldiers or officers from the various subunits or auxiliary services, but by cutting whole military units, along with their weapons and combat equipment. After the completion of this action, all the participants in the agreement should take on the obligation not to increase during the next 3 or 4 years the levels of armed forces and weapons in central Europe. It is a concrete and realistic step that would make it possible to shift matters from a standstill.

[Zholkver] Of course such reductions would be very important from the point of view of creating that trust in Europe that is so essential and that is being discussed primarily at another important all-European meeting -- the Stockholm conference. Last week the latest session of that conference ended. As yet there are not any major positive results, although here too, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries put forward concrete proposals both on concluding a treaty on the nonuse of force and on measures to strengthen mutual military trust. But under various kinds of pretexts, far-fetched pretexts, the West is holding up the working out of mutually acceptable accords, although the success of Stockholm would be a touchstone for the readiness, not in words but in deeds, to strive for a reduction of the danger of war on our continent. This is doubly important since, as you know, Rudolf Georgiyevich, other talks are due in Vienna this autumn, along with the talks on reducing conventional weapons; this is to be a new all-European meeting, after Helsinki.

[Kolchanov] Yes, by 19 September participants in the Stockholm conference should complete their work on the final document. Following this, evolving out of the Stockholm conference, the conference in Vienna should take place.

[Zholkver] Questions will also be discussed there about disarmament in Europe, since at the moment in Stockholm the discussion is mainly about measures of trust.

[Kolchanov] Aleksandr Vladimirovich, the Soviet Union and the socialist countries have a concrete program of peace for Europe. The USSR is proposing that agreement be reached on a significant reduction of all components of ground troops and tactical aviation of the European states and also corresponding forces of the United States and Canada that are deployed in Europe. Moreover, the military formations and units being reduced would be subject to disbandment while their weapons would be destroyed or stored on national territories. The geographic zone of reduction should obviously become the territory of the whole of Europe, from the Atlantic to the Urals. At the same time as conventional weapons, operational-tactical nuclear weapons would also be reduced. This is a businesslike, concrete, and constructive approach to solving European problems.

[Zholkver] Across the ocean attitudes toward the development of events in Europe vary. In this respect an article by Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state and a well-known U.S. politician, published recently in the British OBSERVER newspaper, is very interesting. He admits pretty frankly here that in the United States they are worried by the almost unanimous nonapproval -- in Western Europe, including even Britain -- of U.S. policy, in particular its latest Libyan aspect. He notes that Thatcher was almost isolated in Britain. And Kissinger writes about a new source of tension in NATO, noting, it is true, that these conflicts between the United States and Western Europe have their roots in events of at least 30 years ago. What are we talking about here? Kissinger recalls that NATO was formed in a period when the United States had superiority, first and foremost in nuclear weapons, and when it persistently intimidated West Europeans with the Soviet threat.

Well, times are changing now. Fear of a Soviet invasion has diminished somewhat, Kissinger admits; approximate parity with the Soviet Union has replaced the U.S. nuclear supremacy; and now, he complains, Europe believes it has the right to dissociate itself from U.S. actions. And he comes to the following conclusion: In dissociating itself now from the United States, Europe is thereby challenging the concept of U.S. global interests.

[Kolchanov] I do not think it will be at all difficult to predict how the United States will behave in this situation. It will try even more vigorous arm-twisting tactics than before.

[Zholkver] Yes, for these global interests of the United States actually come into conflict with the interests not only of the West European countries, but also of countries in other regions. Take a look at one of the latest statements by John Poindexter, deputy assistant to the U.S. President for national security affairs. He starts with U.S.-European relations, declaring that U.S. security is indivisible from that of Western Europe. He goes on to say that the United States has likewise linked itself with Japan. South Korea is mentioned further on, which also comes into the chain of U.S. strategic interests. All this ends, however paradoxical it may seem, with southern Africa. We are undertaking efforts, Poindexter declares, aimed at bringing about a diplomatic settlement in the southern African region. Well, in the light of the latest events, in the light of the barbaric raids that the racist RSA [Republic of South Africa] carried out against the neighboring so-called frontline states in southern Africa, I think this diplomatic settlement in the region, so to speak, appears particularly odious.

[Lebedev] Altogether, of course, this whole situation you referred to, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, looks quite simply provocative, to put it bluntly, because it is not a matter of whether there was any specific cooperation between headquarters in Washington and Pretoria, but the Americans alone...

[Zholkver, interrupting] Yes, though questions were asked about this at the Washington press conference, and not by chance, either.

[Lebedev] Not by chance, indeed, because one strike is carried out in the north of the continent, against Libya; and after a relatively short time, a similar strike is carried out in the south of the continent, and the racist Pretoria regime, in so doing, did not even conceal its political grounds, so to speak -- if one could call this a policy, of course -- stating that the reasons and grounds are the same as those for the bombing carried out during the U.S. aggression against Libya, allegedly the fight against terrorism. All this, of course, suggests that these actions were coordinated.

But it is not by chance, either, that we have just been referring to these events taking place on the huge African Continent, I think, because today African Liberation Day is being marked. And against the background of those bloody events that are unfolding because of the interference of imperialism and racism and their aggression against the African peoples -- against this background, in particular, some figures on the situation of Africans and their standard of living sound simply terrible. I shall cite a few statistics based on official UN figures. In Africa, the average life expectancy is 47 years; 75 percent of Africans have no potable water, to say nothing of food. Stern, vice president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, admits that today the average African is worse off than, for example, in 1970. It is no accident that Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, has stated that the current crisis in Africa has its roots in the colonial past, and this is indisputably the case.

But there is no doubt that these misfortunes do not exhaust the legacy of colonialism, for a mighty weapon of neocolonialism has emerged in the form of multinational corporations. The operations of these multinational corporations cost the African states somewhere around $6 billion every year -- and I think this is a very modest estimate. It is no surprise that the foreign indebtedness of the African states -- more accurately, in the last 10 years -- has risen seven-fold altogether, and last year it amounted to over $1.7 billion.

[Kolchanov] Yes, this figure is put at $174 billion now, but that is probably also already out of date compared to the real state of affairs, as indebtedness is rising so rapidly. While the prices for traditional African exports were still more or less high, the African countries were able to spend these funds on developing the economy and improving the social situation of the working people in their countries. But since prices have to a considerable degree been artificially lowered on the world market by the multinational corporations, the incomes of the developing countries of Africa have been falling, and the degree to which the multinational companies and the imperialist forces as a whole are plundering these countries, if you like, has been increasing.

[Lebedev] Meanwhile, the USSR is rendering assistance to African countries, not just in words but in a practical way. To date, for instance, the Soviet Union has helped to irrigate as much land in Africa as will make it possible to produce almost 8 million metric tons of grain. Is this not concrete assistance? Or, for instance, the fact that to date a total of over 300 projects have been built with our assistance, and approximately as many are currently under construction or at the design stage.

[Kolchanov] And what about help with cadres? Some of you were probably at the press conference that was held at the Foreign Ministry in connection with African Liberation Day. Figures were cited there, and I will quote them: 50,000 experts from African countries attended study courses at advanced education institutions in the USSR; 3,000 of them received a degree. To say nothing of the fact that 150,000 qualified workers have been trained locally in these countries, and 250,000 specialists in various fields.

[Zholkver] I would add to this that other socialist states, too, render this assistance to African countries. Just recently a session of the mixed cooperation commission of CEMA and the People's Republic of Mozambique was held in Maputo. What sort of issues were examined? Rendering assistance to Mozambique in the sphere of agriculture, light industry, the food industry, health care, and education -- that is, the most urgent problems both for this African country and for many other African states. It should be said that African states are of course trying to solve these problems using their own resources, uniting their efforts. For African Liberation Day marks today what is already the 23d anniversary of the formation of the OAU.

And just now the defense ministers of a number of countries on the African Continent are meeting in Harare to discuss specific measures to organize collective defense. This is now doubly important in the circumstances of this latest direct armed aggression by the RSA, in particular in connection with the incursion into Angola.

How diverse and full of anxieties and problems is our modern world, then! The main thing, however, is the fact that mankind is confronted by a harsh choice. What is involved is the preservation of life itself on earth.

In these conditions, the Soviet Union is struggling for the sole sensible historic prospect, rejecting war as a means of resolving ideological and political disputes and putting forward a specific program for all mankind of strengthening peace, banning nuclear weapons and creating an all-embracing system of collective security.

Thank you, comrades, for taking part in this conversation.

UN ECOSOC DISCUSSES INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE

LD232252 Moscow TASS in English 2217 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] New York May 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent S. Baybakov reports:

The spring session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) ended here. Its participants discussed such important questions as the implementation of the international covenants on economic, social and cultural rights, the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, the struggle against racial discrimination and others.

On the initiative of the Soviet delegation the session unanimously approved the resolution marking the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the covenants on human rights -- all-embracing international treaties which bind all states to observe social, economic and political rights of citizens. During the discussion of the resolution the delegates of many countries noted that the Soviet Union which was among the first countries to sign the covenants have long since implemented their provisions.

The ratification of the covenants in the USSR has been a natural and logical step, since the main aim of the Soviet state is the care for man, for his living and working conditions, his spiritual development.

The discussion of the functions connected with the International Year of Peace which, on the decision of the United Nations General Assembly is observed in 1986, held an important place in the work of the ECOSOC session. A great response in the participants in the forum was evoked by the Soviet programme of ending the nuclear arms race, the most serious threat to peace, human rights and life on earth, the programme advanced at the 27th CPSU Congress. On the initiative of delegations of socialist countries the participants in the session adopted a resolution urging all nations and the international community to participate intensively in the implementation of the International Year of Peace.

The ECOSOC session also adopted an important resolution against the criminal policy of the training and use of mercenaries. This document proposed by a large group of African countries and other non-aligned countries qualifies mercenarism as a threat to international peace and security, as a crime against humanity. The overwhelming majority of delegates demanded that an end be put to the practice of the use of gangs of mercenaries, the instrument of imperialist aggression and interference, the practice that contradicts the United Nations Charter.

The participants in the session condemned the attack of the South African racists on Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. They demanded an end to the policy of terror and violence conducted by Pretoria and endorsed the decisions on stepping up the struggle against apartheid and racism, against the aid to the apartheid regime by a number of Western countries and transnational corporations.

TASS REPORTS ON GROMYKO TALKS WITH U.S. LAWYERS

LD271808 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received a delegation of the leadership of the American Bar Association (ABA), headed by William Flasgraf, in the Kremlin today. The U.S. guests are currently in the USSR at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Association of Soviet Lawyers.

During the conversation Mr Falsgraf described the activities of the ABA which has a membership of over 300,000 and expressed the wish of broader cooperation with the Association of Soviet Lawyers.

A firm opinion was expressed on both sides that successful contacts between the Soviet and American associations might in many respects contribute to improving relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Lawyers, Andrey Gromyko emphasised, could say their weighty word, without detriment to their direct legal activities, in favour of international security and peaceful co-operation between the two powers.

The difference between the two countries' state and legal systems should not be an obstacle to such cooperation between countries. On the contrary, rather. The difference calls for mutual exchanges of experience and opinions so that those who participate in international cooperation would be guided by the supreme interests of the two peoples to live in peace with each other.

From the American side, it was stated that the two great powers which had won the great war could achieve a great peace -- this is the opinion of many in the United States. Lawyers can also make their contribution to achieving mutual understanding on individual problems which are now acquiring an increasingly wide and even global character.

The Soviet side, at the request of spokesmen of the U.S. delegation, gave explanations of the USSR's foreign policy on a number of matters.

The conversation passed in a friendly atmosphere.

VOROTNIKOV RECEIVES CANADIAN JOURNALIST

PM231343 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] V.I. Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, received R. Lever, a representative of the editorial board of the Canadian magazine (MAKLINZ), on 21 May at his request and had a talk with him.

TV REPORTS VOROTNIKOV'S ARRIVAL, TALKS IN ULAANBAATAR

LD271913 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 27 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A CPSU delegation led by Comrade Vorotnikov arrived in Ulaanbaatar today at the invitation of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee to take part in the work of the 19th MPRP Congress.

[Begin V. Korzin, Ye. Shmatrikov, and N. Moskvitin recording -- identified by caption]

The new airport terminal serving the Mongolian capital, opened literally a few days ago, is receiving the guests -- the delegations of communist and workers parties that will participate in the work of the 19th MPRP Congress. A CPSU delegation, led by Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov, arrived here today at the MPRP Central Committee's invitation. The guests from the Soviet Union were warmly greeted at the foot of the aircraft steps by Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, chairman of the Great People's Hural Presidium; Sodnom, chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers; and by other party and state figures of the country.

Numerous achievements of today's Mongolia have become possible thanks to its strong ties with the Soviet Union. It is with pride that people here say that the great Lenin was the inspiration for Soviet-Mongolian friendship. One of the most beautiful buildings in the capital houses the museum to the leader of the world's proletariat. The CPSU delegation familiarized itself with the extensive exhibition staged in the museum and with the documents telling how Ilich's ideas are being implemented on Mongolian soil.

The CPSU delegation was received by Comrade Batmonh in the MPRP Central Committee. Cordially welcoming the CPSU delegation, Comrade Batmonh acquainted the guests with the results of the party's work carried out during the period before the congress. Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov related how the 27th CPSU Congress decisions are being fulfilled, and how the process of restructuring the national economy along the path of accelerating the economic and social development is proceeding in our own country. Prospects for further development of the Soviet-Mongolian cooperation were examined in a comradely atmosphere. [end recording]

Comrade Vorotnikov, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, conveyed cordial greetings and wishes for success in the work of the 19th MPRP Congress.

Also today, the delegation laid a wreath at the tomb of the leader of the Mongolian revolution, Suhe Bator and Marshal Choibalsan. The guests also laid a wreath at the foot of the Vladimir Ilich Lenin monument. [Video shows Vorotnikov and Biryukova greeted by officials at airport; pioneer girls giving flowers to Vorotnikov; Lenin museum; Vorotnikov and Biryukova inside museum; two sides seated at oblong table]

19TH MPRP CONGRESS OPENS IN ULAANBAATAR

LD280451 Moscow TASS in English 0449 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 28 TASS -- The 19th Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary party began its work in Ulaanbaatar today.

Its delegates will discuss the party Central Committee's report to the congress, delivered by Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee.

The delegates will also consider the guidelines of the country's economic and social development for 1986-1990 and elect leading bodies of the party.

Representatives of more than seventy foreign communist and workers' parties, revolutionary democratic and national liberation movements are taking part in its work.

Batmonh Delivers Report

LD280459 Moscow TASS in English 0434 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 28 TASS -- The economic and social tasks set by the 18th congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) have been, on the whole, successfully accomplished, points out a "report of the MPRP Central Committee to the 19th Congress of the party and further tasks". The report was delivered at the MPRP's 19th Congress, which opened here today, by Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP MPRP Central Committee. In the Seventh Five-Year Plan period (1981-1985), the speaker said, the Mongolian People's Republic (MPR) made new strides in socialist construction. The key assets of the national economy increased by 70 per cent. The national income produced grew by 37 per cent. Approximately four-fifths of the increment in national income was resultant of a rise in labour productivity. Agricultural development matters were the central ones in the party's economic policy. The average annual agricultural output grew by 18 per cent. The fixed assets of industry doubled.

The party secured a consistent accomplishment of the main tasks set at the 18th Congress in the field of raising the people's living standard. Real per capita incomes grew by 12 per cent. The housing conditions of urban and rural population improve. The network of medical institutions has broadened. In Mongolia, there are now 24 physicians and 111 hospital beds per 10,000 people. Science, culture, art and literature developed successfully.

When determining economic and social tasks for the coming years, the MPRP Central Committee orients itself towards the intensification of economic development, the report emphasises. During social industrialisation of Mongolia, a process of its gradual development into an industrial-agrarian country takes place. In the eighth five-year period, it is planned to channel 24,700 million tugriks into national economic development, to increased fixed assets by approximately 50 per cent. About 1.2 million square metres of housing is to be turned over for occupancy in five years' time. Public education, health care and culture will receive further development.

The main line, which the MPRP invariably adheres to in the field of foreign economic relations, is to draw closer to the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community in every way and to join hands with them, the speaker pointed out. "Our relations with the fraternal countries successfully develop on the principles of socialist internationalism, in the spirit of the main documents of the CMEA member countries' economic summit conference".

Touching upon the international situation, the speaker said that the political climate in the world had become sharply aggravated and that the threat of nuclear war had grown in recent years. He said the aggressive circles of imperialism and above all the United States, rejecting the course towards detente, had embarked upon the path of upsetting the military-strategic parity which had developed in the world, the path of stepping up the nuclear arms race, and of militarizing outer space.

In this connection the speaker emphasised a great importance of the peace initiatives of the USSR. Special place among them is occupied by a wide range of concrete measures of stage-by-stage elimination of weapons of mass destruction, the measures which were set out in the January 15 statement of Mikhail Gorbachev, as well as the peace action programme adopted by the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), Jambyn Batmonh said.

The Soviet Union's pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons as well as its unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions, the moratorium which was observed for many months and which was recently extended until August 6 of this year became exceptionally important practical steps along the lines of preventing nuclear war and bringing about an end to the arms race. However, the U.S. Administration does not listen to the voice of reason and pays no heed to the insistent demands of the world public. On the contrary, through nuclear tests in Nevada, through the piratic attack on Libya, and through other numerous provocative actions Washington torpedoes the spirit of Geneva and blocks ways leading to an improvement of international relations.

The speaker emphasised that all-round promotion of the cause of strengthening security in the Asian Continent is the major direction of the foreign-policy activities of the party and the state. The USSR-advanced idea of a comprehensive approach to the problem of ensuring security in Asia presupposes the pooling of the efforts of Asian countries and a joint search for ways to consolidate peace in the region. The idea serves as a basis for the solution of the complex problems of the continent in the interests of peoples inhabiting it.

Consonant with this approach is the proposal made by the Mongolian People's Republic on the creation of a machinery which would rule out the use of force in relations between the countries of Asia and the Pacific Ocean area, the report says.

Imperialism's attempts at knocking together military-political blocs or a closed community in the Asian-Pacific region run counter to the basic interests of peoples and to the ensurance of their peaceful future, the leader of the Mongolian Communists emphasised.

Touching upon relations between Mongolia and the PRC, the speaker said that the Mongolian People's Republic consistently pursued its principled course towards normalizing relationships with the People's Republic of China. "We proceed from the assumption that the development of goodneighbourly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries on the basis of strict observance on the principles of equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other meet the interests of the Mongolian and Chinese peoples and the interests of socialism".

The speaker stated that Mongolia invariably came out in support of the national-liberation and revolutionary movements of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, and of their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid and racism, for national freedom and social progress.

IZVESTIYA ON IDEA OF ADMITTING TWO KOREAS TO UN

PM201440 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 86 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Chugrov "International Commentary": "Who Is Striving To Perpetuate Split"]

[Text] The recent conference of the leaders of the seven leading capitalist countries in Tokyo featured, in particular, the so-called "Korean question."

The leaders of the "Big seven" were unable to bypass such an important problem as the tense situation on the Korean peninsula. But they approached the problem in their own way: Instead of promoting an easing of tension in the region, the Tokyo summiteers agreed to "strive for the simultaneous admission of North and South Korea to the United Nations." One need not be a seer to find the trap in this decision -- an attempt to perpetuate the wall of concrete cutting the Korean peninsula in two. This sorry "initiative" is just one of the tricks used by Washington in order to maintain the status quo on the peninsula and drive the political wedge between the two parts of Korea even deeper.

In 1975, at the 30th UN General Assembly session, the United States tried to arrange for the separate admission of South Korea into the United Nations. Only when this nameuver by Seoul and Washington failed did people on the Potomac invent the "viewpoint" of the simultaneous admission of North and South Korea into the United Nations and their "cross recognition." But even then this "viewpoint" was rejected by the world community, which approved direct talks between the two parts of Korea.

As we can see, the question has a long history. So why are the United States and its allies now once again pushing the idea of the "simultaneous admission to the United Nations" of the two parts of the country?

The essence of the matter is that at the start of this year the DPRK Government made a number of constructive new proposals. They were aimed at creating conditions for a North-South dialogue. The problem of the peaceful unification of Korea was able (threatened, in Washington's opinion) to get moving. Naturally, however, unification and the presence of U.S. troops on the peninsula are incompatible. People overseas became alarmed: The prospect of leaving South Korea was very scary. The United States has expended considerable effort in sketching out on the map of the world the military-political contours of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul triangle. In it South Korea is given an important role as a U.S. nuclear springboard. But without one side the entire geometrical figure naturally collapses.

The DPRK's proposal that major military exercises in the North and South be abandoned was answered with the unprecedented scale of the U.S.-South Korean "Team Spirit-86" maneuvers. And the fabricated pretext of the "threat of aggression from the North" is used to justify the new militarist preparations.

The "Big Seven's" decision to seek admission of the "two Koreas" to the United Nations was answered in a statement by a DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman published in Pyongyang. The Republic's government and the entire Korean people will resolutely oppose the attempts to perpetuate the split in the country and will struggle for its peaceful, democratic unification, the document says.

Should Korea become a UN member? Certainly, and as soon as possible. But as a single state or a confederation. Any other option would mean a deepening of national division.

FISHING ACCORD WITH JAPAN REACHED, QUOTA REDUCED

For the KYODO account of the USSR-Japan salmon fishing agreement in the northwestern Pacific, reached on 24 May, see the Japan section of the 28 May Asia and Pacific DAILY REPORT.

PRAVDA CITES NAJIBULLAH SPEECH TO PDPA JOURNALISTS

PM280752 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Special correspondent V. Okulov report: "Meeting With Party Journalists"]

[Text] Kabul, 26 May -- Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, met today with the collective of the editorial office of the newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, the PDPA Central Committee organ. Addressing the journalists, Comrade Najib gave an assessment of the military-political situation in the country and stressed the newspaper's important role in mobilizing the Afghan people to fulfill the tasks of the people's democratic revolution under the conditions of confrontation with the forces of imperialism and regional reaction, which are waging an undeclared war against the DRA. Comrade Najib noted the successes of the DRA's young party press. The daily circulation of HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR has reached 90,000 copies -- an unprecedented level for a country where to this day the overwhelming majority of the population is illiterate.

The PDPA Central Committee general secretary urged the journalists to be more active in fulfilling the newspaper's role of collective agitator, propagandist, and organizer of the masses and gave practical advice and recommendations on improving the work of the party's central press organ.

DEMOCRATIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

LD280412 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 27 May 86

[Leshchinskiy report on festivities marking the 10th anniversary of the Democratic Youth Organization in Kabul on 27 May; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Two hundred thousand members of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan [DYOA] are today receiving the congratulations of their people and co-equals from many countries of the world. Among the foreign delegations, there are also representatives of our country headed by Vladimir Aksenov, chairman of the Committee of Youth Organizations of the USSR.

Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, warmly congratulated the militant vanguard of Afghan youth. He noted the great contribution of this reserve of the party to the cause of defending the revolution and building a new life on Afghan soil. Comrade Najibullah handed the Order of the Red Banner to the youth organization. [Video shows Leshchinskiy standing at a central Kabul square among playing children who are dressed in young pioneer uniforms that are almost identical to those of their Soviet counterparts. Next, the camera shows top Afghan officers among young officers and uniformed children listening to Najibullah's address. Finally, Najibullah is shown handing over the banner.]

REPORTAGE ON UK PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

Talks with Voss

LD271634 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1525 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 27 May (TASS) -- A meeting took place today in the USSR Supreme Soviet with the British parliamentary delegation led by Lord Whitelaw, lord president of the council

Avgust Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, told the guests about basic trends in the social, economic, public, and political life of Soviet society at the current stage, and spoke about the activity and structure of the country's supreme organ of state power.

We greatly appreciated the opportunity to meet with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and are deeply grateful to him for the time he gave us and for the exchange of opinions which took place, the head of the delegation said.

David Crouch, Renee Short, Robert Jackson, Tom Clarke, and Alan Beith, the delegation members, spoke about various aspects of the British Parliament's activity.

During the conversation, great attention was paid to the theme of international security and disarmament. Despite differing approaches to several issues concerning this problem of paramount importance to humanity, both sides agreed on the need for an end to the arms race.

The British MP's explained the various points of view of the parties which they represent on domestic and foreign policy issues. It was stated in particular that the Labour Party opposes British participation in the American SDI program, including its research section, and opposes the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in the country. D. Healey described as a new and valuable initiative the proposal expressed by Mikhail Gorbachev during his meeting with the delegation that if Great Britain officially decides to eliminate its own nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will be prepared to reduce its nuclear potential correspondingly.

The participants in the talks remarked that the exchange of opinions that took place made a positive contribution to the development of Soviet-British parliamentary links.

Taking part in the talks were deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet Georgiy Arbatov, Vadim Zagladin, Yuriy Izrael, Sergey Losev, and Vladimir Terebilov.

Lunch was provided in honor of the delegation on behalf of the chairmen of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The British members of Parliament visited the mausoleum of V.I. Lenin.

Whitelaw Comments

LD271753 Moscow World Service in English 1550 GMT 27 May 86

[Interview with UK parliamentary delegation leader Lord Whitelaw by Aleksandr Barabeychik in Moscow on 26 May; from the "Guest Speaker" program -- recorded]

[Text] [Barabeychik] Lord Whitelaw, you have just been received by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin. How would you describe the meeting, what did you learn about the Soviet stand on major international problems?

[Whitelaw] The meeting was long and very friendly and conducted in a good spirit throughout. We discussed both those issues on which we agreed and those issues on which we differed, I think, in a very friendly spirit.

[Barabeychik] During the meeting did you feel the Soviet leader's concern for the present tense international situation?

[Whitelaw] Yes, indeed. They feel that they have made various proposals, they don't feel that in all cases they've had a sufficient response from the West. Obviously that's a matter on which we might argue but that is their feeling.

[Barabeychik] What remedies does he suggest for rectifying it to the better?

[Whitelaw] I think that Mr Gorbachev is very keen to have a summit meeting but he wants to be sure before he has such a meeting that there are positive areas where the groundwork has been done leading to an agreement.

[Barabeychik] Did Comrade Gorbachev familiarize you with the major Soviet peace initiative of 15 January?

[Whitelaw] Yes, indeed he did, and he hopes that that will be followed up and he feels that so far it hasn't been followed up as much as he would have liked.

[Barabeychik] Mikhail Gorbachev also dwelt on Soviet-British relations. What points did he make, how does he see the priorities here?

[Whitelaw] Well, he was grateful for the prime minister's letter. He said that it showed that the British Government wished to continue the dialogue. He hoped that that would be further developed. He would reply to it. He had some reservations as to the extent with which we had reacted to various events but on the whole he clearly wanted an improvement in British relations and he wanted to see the Soviet Union and Britain closer together on many of these issues. And that was the whole burden of a meeting which went on for so long, was conducted in such a friendly spirit. It showed the feeling that everyone wanted to make progress.

[Barabeychik] General Secretary Gorbachev's approach to subjects of your discussion, did it reveal new political concepts, new political thinking so vital in our nuclear age?

[Whitelaw] He had various proposals to make about the future of nuclear weapons, about a comprehensive test ban treaty which he wants to put to the other nations, and no doubt that will be done.

[Barabeychik] Surely you must have recalled the Soviet leader's successful visit to Britain in December of 1984?

[Whitelaw] Yes, we did indeed, and we pointed out to him how much we'd appreciated his visit then and how much we believed that had led to an increase in mutual respect between our two nations. We also pointed out to him that our visit now, we hoped, would lead similarly.

[Barabeychik] Now how do you see the value of such high-level discussions in general?

[Whitelaw] That they can create a climate. There was no doubt about the climate of our discussion this afternoon. Of course we didn't agree on everything. We didn't attempt to argue on some of those issues on which we may not have agreed but we had a friendly discussion in a good atmosphere and that must be very important.

[Barabeychik] Are you satisfied with the progress of your visit so far to the Soviet Union?

[Whitelaw] I think we are all extremely pleased with our reception, with the kindness we've been shown, with the hospitality we have been given and indeed with the priority which we have been given in leading figures of the Soviet Union giving a considerable amount of time to discussions with us.

[Barabeychik] And the next leg of your trip takes you to the hero city of Leningrad and our national republic of Georgia, I gather.

[Whitelaw] Yes, it does indeed, and of course there will be different discussions. We will look forward very much to going to Leningrad where we know not only that it is a marvellous tourist attraction and tourist area but an area which shows to many people like me who fought in the last war just what the Soviet resistance in Leningrad meant for the successful result of the war against Hitler's Germany.

Arms Deal Ruled Out

LD271803 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1783 GMT 27 May 86

[By Chris Moncrieff, PA chief political correspondent]

[Text] Liberal Party Deputy Leader Mr Alan Beith, in Moscow with a group of British parliamentarians, today ruled out "deals on the side" between Britain and the Soviet Union as a means of reducing international tension over nuclear weapons.

Mr Beith was speaking after the all-party group had talks at the Kremlin with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, in which the Soviet leader said Moscow was ready to strike a separate agreement with Britain on cutting nuclear weapons.

But Mr Beith said afterwards: "The answer to problems of international tension does not lie in deals on the side between Britain and the Soviet Union.

"Britain's role should lie in helping to bring about a more constructive response from the United States and in ceasing to back such U.S. policies as star wars."

Mr. Beith went on: "Mr Gorbachev is in a strong position to achieve a reduction in arms spending, which the Soviet economy badly needs, as part of an agreement which could safeguard the interests of the Western democracies and make the world a safer place.

"We made it absolutely clear that he is very keen to secure real progress in multilateral disarmament, and, although all the options he has put forward will require considerable further work, Western leaders will be very foolish if they do not show a positive response.

Mr Beith said. "Mr Gorbachev referred to the need to build a bridge from both sides. Mrs Thatcher needs to push the Americans into doing more bridge-building instead of encouraging them to carry on as before."

Mr Beith handed to Mr Gorbachev a letter from Mr David Steel in which the Liberal leader called for an improvement in "the controlled management of our differences".

Mr Steel's letter continued: "Irrespective of the United States action in Libya, from which we strongly dissented, or their failure to respond to the ban on test. [as received] which you offered and have now extended, it is essential that the Geneva process be taken forward.

"My own view is that the freeze option, which you have proposed, would represent a significant step forward. Quite evidently it is not a policy in itself, but it would greatly improve the possibility of longer-term agreement in terms which both the Soviet Union and the Western alliance would regard as providing security and stability."

Meets With Murakhovskiy, Aristov

LD271849 Moscow TASS in English 1836 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- Vsevolod Murakhovskiy, a first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and chairman of the State Agri-Industrial (Gosagroprom) Committee of the USSR, today received a British parliamentary delegation led by Viscount Whitelaw, a deputy prime minister, lord president of the Privy Council and a member of the Conservative Party.

The guests were briefed on the work done by Gosagroprom to fulfill the national food program and streamline the economic mechanism of the country's agri-industrial sector.

An exchange of opinions took place also on scientific, technological and economic cooperation between the two countries in agriculture and related industries and the possibilities to develop it.

During a conversation between Boris Aristov, foreign trade minister of the USSR, and the delegation an exchange of opinions took place on trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

PRAVDA REPORTS SAARLAND LEADER'S NEWS CONFERENCE

PM271631 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Favor of Expanded Cooperation"]

[Text] The aim of my visit to the Soviet Union was to promote the development of economic relations between Saarland (FRG) and the USSR, including the expansion of partnership ties between Saarbruecken and Tbilisi and Saarland and Georgia, O. Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland and member of the Board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany said at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists held at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center on 23 May. Lafontaine is in our country at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The guest noted that, in addition to questions pertaining to the expansion of economic cooperation, a wide range of international problems was discussed during his visit. He said that the sides had noted that their viewpoints coincided on such issues as ending nuclear tests, preventing the arms race from spreading to space, and creating nuclear-free and chemical weapon-free zones in Europe.

Ending nuclear tests would be a first step toward confidence building and disarmament, the minister-president emphasized. It is beyond question that any agreements in the disarmament sphere must be subject to verification [kontrol]. In our view, O. Lafontaine said, the technical facilities for monitoring [kontrol] nuclear tests presents no problem.

Touching on the question of economic contacts, he said that there are many spheres in Saarland and in the USSR where mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries is possible.

O. Lafontaine said that he had the opportunity to express profound sympathy to the Soviet people in connection with the accident at the Chernobyl AES. He noted that the feeling of compassion should be in the forefront of international reaction to this disaster. Concern over the events at Chernobyl and the unleashing of an anti-Soviet campaign must have nothing in common with each other.

The minister-president of Saarland noted that his talks in the Soviet Union were held in a friendly and frank atmosphere, even when it was a matter of questions on which there were differences of opinion. My visit was useful and has produced positive results, the guest emphasized.

Lafontaine Departs

PM280826 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] O. Lafontaine, minister-president of Saarland (FRG), left Moscow for home on 25 May. He was seen off at the airport by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

WEINBERGER HOPES FOR AUSTRIAN PARTICIPATION IN SDI

LD201938 Moscow TASS in English 1913 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Vienna May 20 TASS -- The U.S. Secretary of defense, Caspar Weinberger, who is making a tour of a number of West European countries, has arrived in Austria, a first post-war visit by the head of the U.S. Defense Department to this country.

According to local observers, Washington's emissary is going to discuss in Vienna the problem of Austria's contribution to the defense of the West. Even the interview, given by Weinberger to the newspaper "DIE PRESSE" [words indistinct] bears proof of the undisguised pressure put by Washington on neutral Austria in this question. That the Austrian Armed Forces are demonstrating convincing selfdefense capability is a positive contribution to the NATO deterrence and defense, he said. Weinberger in actual fact supported attempts by certain forces in Austria which seek to remove a clause from the State Treaty which bans Austria's possession of missiles. Caspar Weinberger expressed the "hope" that Austrian firms would show interest in orders related to the "Strategic Defense Initiative."

TASS Notes Austrian Protests

LD212213 Moscow TASS in English 1152 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Vienna May 21 TASS -- The U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger today completed his official visit to Austria. In Vienna he had negotiations with Federal Chancellor of Austria Fred Sinowatz, Foreign and Defence Ministers Leopold Gratz and Helmut Kruenes.

The visit of the U.S. defence secretary was met with numerous protests of Austrian progressive organisations against the policy of the American Administration. In a joint statement they demanded that the United States should stop the star wars preparations and renunciate nuclear tests.

'Anti-Soviet' Positions Expressed

LD232140 Moscow TASS in English 2036 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Copenhagen May 23 TASS -- U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has completed his official visit to Denmark today. At a press conference for local and foreign journalists he advocated from strongly anti-Soviet positions consolidation of the Armed Forces of the NATO countries and criticised the idea of establishing a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe, the idea popular in Denmark.

LOMONOSOV LEAVES FOR PORTUGUESE TRADE UNION CONGRESS

PM271120 Moscow TRUD in Russian 27 May 86 p 3

[Unattributed report: "For the Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] AUCCTU Deputy Chairman V.G. Lomonosov left Moscow for Lisbon yesterday to take part in the Fifth Congress of the General Confederation of Portuguese Workers-National Intersindical at the invitation of the General Confederation of Portuguese Workers-National Intersindical.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON JALLUD VISIT TO MOSCOW

LD271805 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 27 May 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] We have just received this report: A meeting took place today between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Jallud handed Comrade Gorbachev a note from the leader of the socialist Jamahiriyah, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The U.S. aggression against Libya, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said, has again shown to the whole world what imperialism is. This act by the United States has reaffirmed the urgent nature of the joint analysis and appraisals that were made during Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's visit to the Soviet Union last October. The doctrine of neoglobalism, which is designed to cover up state terrorism in relation to peoples who have made their choice in favor of independence and radical social change, exacerbates the already tense and dangerous situation in the world.

The Soviet Union's invariable position in support of the just cause of the Libyan revolution and the Libyan leadership's determination to uphold its gain against any encroachment was reaffirmed.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and 'Abd al-Salam Jallud focussed attention on the consequences of the armed raid on Libya for the peace-loving national liberation forces and for all Arab states in particular. The U.S. moral-political defeat does not rule out further adventures, and that is why vigilance, firmness [vyderzhannost] and a high level of defense capability by states that might become the target of an imperialist attack, a sense of principle and consistency in condemning those pretexts that the imperialists use in this regard, especially terrorism in any of its forms, are required.

The Soviet Union's readiness to develop mutually advantageous and equal economic cooperation with Libya on a long-term basis, to give it assistance in strengthening its defense capability and to cooperate in the international arena for the benefit of peace and the security of peoples on the basis of agreed on principles was emphasized during the conversation.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev asked that the Soviet people's solidarity be conveyed to the friendly Libyan people and wished them courage and endurance in the struggle for their just cause.

JANA Reports Talks

LD271617 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1547 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 27 May (JANA) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, received at the Kremlin Palace this afternoon Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, who is currently paying a working visit to the Soviet Union.

Staff Maj. Jallud conveyed a written message from the brother leader of the revolution to the Soviet leader.

JANA correspondents have learned that the current international situation, particularly the situation in the Arab and the Mediterranean regions in light of the failed barbarous U.S.-Atlantist aggression on the Libyan Arab people, was discussed during this meeting.

Talks With Ryzhkov

LD271551 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow, 27 May (TASS) -- Talks took place in the Kremlin today between Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahariyah. Taking part were, on the Soviet side: Eduard Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR; Sergey Sokolov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo, candidate member and minister of defense of the USSR; Anatoliy Dobrynin, CPSU Central Committee Secretary; and Konstantin Katushev, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and on the Libyan side Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of planning; Kamil Hasan al-Mansur, secrtary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Affairs; Jum'ah al-Arbash, head of the directorate of Atomic Energy, chairman of the Electricity Corporation; Umar al-Muntasir, secretary for industry [as received] and other officials, accompanying the Libyan delegation.

During the talks, which were held in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding, primary attention was devoted to questions of Soviet-Libyan cooperation in political, economic, scientific-technical and other fields. The sides noted that dynamic development had taken place in comprehensive mutually beneficial fruitful links and affirmed their desire to broaden and strengthen these links still further. Favorable opportunities for this are opened up by the long-term development program for economic, scientific-technical and trade cooperation between the USSR and the Libyan Jamahiriyah, signed by Mikahail Gorbachev and Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi during the leader of the Libyan revolution's visit to the Soviet Union in October 1985.

A detailed exchange of opinions took place on topical issues concerning the international situation, which has become sharply aggravated as a result of the U.S. Administration's adventurist militarist policies and its attempts to dictate its will to sovereign states.

The Soviet side again decisively condemned the aggressive U.S. actions against Libya, considering them an extremely crude violation of the UN Charter and of the norms of international law. It expresses solidarity with the Libyan people and demands an immediate end to policies of state terrorism being carried out by the United States against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and other Arab states.

'Abd al-Salam Jallud expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet Union for its moral, political, and other support and help for the Libyan people in their struggle for freedom and independence and against the policies of forceful carried out by the American military against sovereign states.

The sides pointed out the importance of strengthening the cooperation of all progressive forces in the struggle to consolidate peace and international security, avert the danger of nuclear war and ensure the inalienable rights of peoples to independence and social progress.

Note was made of the value and fruitfulness of the talks which had taken place, and the conviction was expressed that meetings between Soviet and Libyan leaders have important significance for strengthening friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Discusses Cooperation

LD271339 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Joint Libyan Arab-Soviet talks opened this morning in Moscow. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee member and Soviet prime minister [title as heard] participated in the talks. Members of the delegation accompanying Staff Maj Jallud on the Libyan Arab side, and on the Soviet side Sergey Sokolov, the defense minister; Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations at the Foreign Ministry, and Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR foreign minister, participated in the talks.

A review of existing cooperative relations between the two friendly countries and means that would push these relations toward more development in all fields was made at this round of talks, which lasted approximately 2 hours.

The Libyan Arab and Soviet delegations discussed Arab and African issues and exchanged views regarding developments of current world issues. Later the talks continued at a meeting attended by Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud, the secretary of the People's Committee of People's Bureau for Foreign Liasion; Nikolay Ryzhkov, CPSU Central Committee member and Soviet prime minister, and the [Soviet] foreign and defense ministers.

The JANA representative in Moscow said many specialist committees came out of this round of talks, and were delegated the task of studying areas for cooperation between the two friendly countries in all spheres.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of sincere desire for action to strengthen the solid relations between the great Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union, particularly in light of the current international situation resulting from the failed U.S.-Atlanticist barbaric aggression against the people of the great Jamahiriyah and the continuous U.S. threats against the Arab countries.

Exchange Speeches

LD271625 Moscow TASS in English 1600 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- The Government of the USSR gave a dinner in honor of 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyah, in the grand Kremlin palace today.

Present at the dinner were Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Sergey Sokolov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and defence minister of the USSR, Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officals.

Ryzhkov and Jallud exchanged brief speeches. Jallud is on a working visit to Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Government since Monday.

Lomeyko Comments

LD271454 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- The working visit to the USSR of 'Abd al-Jallud, a member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, at the invitation of the Soviet Government, which began on Monday, will "undoubtedly contribute to strengthening friendship and solidarity between the Soviet Union and Libya", said Vladimir Lomeyko.

The head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Press Department was speaking at a briefing on current international issues here today.

He said the talks will cover the issues of bilateral relations and there will also be an exchange of opinions on the present international situation, in particular questions concerning U.S. aggressive actions against Libya.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, a member of the leadership of the Ba'th Party and vice-president of the Syrian Arab Republic, arrives in Moscow on a working visit today, the spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry said.

This visit is taking place as the situation in the Middle East and the Mediterranean, including around Syria, has become more tense. All responsibility for the increase in tension is on the United States and its strategic ally, Israel.

During the forthcoming talks and conversations in Moscow, Lomeyko said, the Soviet side intends to exchange with Khaddam opinions about the present situation in the Middle East and discuss bilateral Soviet-Syrian relations.

Arab Sources Cite Arms Deal

LD271006 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 May (KUNA) -- Diplomatic sources in Moscow have told AL-ITTIHAD, published here today, that 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Revolutionary Council [as received], who arrived in Moscow yesterday evening leading a high-level Libyan delegation, including the Libyan defense minister [as received], will sign a big Soviet arms deal. Talks on the deal had been suspended since Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's last visit to Moscow. However, after the U.S. air piracy against Libyan towns, Moscow agreed to sign the deal, which is considered to be one of the biggest Soviet military deals with an Arab country in many years.

The sources, which also pointed out that the Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was due to visit Moscow today, said that Jallud's visit to Moscow is in response to an urgent invitation from the Soviet Union, which will include talks with Khaddam on settling differences between Syria and the PLO and reconciliation between Syria, Libya, and Iraq. The talks will also deal with the possibility of an Israeli aggression with U.S. assistance on Syrian forces in Lebanon.

The Arab [as received] diplomatic sources said that the first round of talks will begin immediately after the arrival of 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The sources stressed that Khaddam and Jallud will hold intensive talks with the Soviet leadership on the tense situations in the Middle East and the Mediterranean basin and the escalating hostile campaign launched by the U.S. Administration against Syria and Libya, among other things.

The Syrian and Libyan sides will also discuss the issue of promoting military and economic relations with the Soviet Union.

The sources stressed that the issue of the Iraq-Iran war will be given great attention in the Soviet-Libyan-Syrian talks, and will attempt to reconcile Iraq and these two Arab countries, which have for a long time stood beside Iran against Iraq, by committing themselves to total neutrality. [sentence as received] The Soviet side will also discuss the reasons for the failure to convene the Arab summit conference in Fes with the Libyan and Syrian sides.

An African diplomatic source stressed that Maj Jallud will discuss in detail the issue of the air piracy against three African countries and its negative effects on Libya, as well as the factors which may affect the convening of the nonaligned countries' conference which is expected to be held in Harare.

SYRIA'S VICE PRESIDENT KHADDAM ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

Met by Shevardnadze

JN271846 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Moscow this evening leading a delegation comprising Comrades General Hikmat al-Shihabi, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command member and chief of staff of the Army and Armed Forces; Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, on a cordial working visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

He was received at the airport by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR foreign minister; Vladimir Orlov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces; Felix Fedotov, the USSR ambassador in Damascus; a number of Soviet officials; the Syrian charge d'affaires in Moscow; the embassy staff; and members of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party command in the Soviet Union.

Talks between the Syrian Arab and the Soviet sides will be held tomorrow morning.

Commentary on Visit

LD272351 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 May 86

[From the "Window on the Arab World," program, presented by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] [Passage indistinct]. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian vice president, arrived today in the Soviet Union on a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership. This visit indicates the consolidation of Syrian-Soviet relations and cooperation in the various fields, including the consolidation of Syria's defensive abilities.

The Syrian leadership has repeatedly pointed out that Soviet assistance plays the most important role in the field of economic and social development in Syria, in defending Syrian achievements; and in confronting the (?enemies of Syria) and Zionism.

In this light we have to look at the meetings in Damascus between Aleksey Lizichev and senior Syrian commanders, and also with the Political Department of the Armed Forces of the Syrian Arab Republic. They exchanged views about vital issues such as the [word indistinct] and training soldiers, and their moral and technological reinforcement. This has to be as strong as [words indistinct]. Today, under circumstances of Zionist and imperialist escalation of tension around Syria, self-control and steadfastness are required.

Syria's strong defensive ability, supported by the Soviet Union, is a strong barricade in the way of the military adventurist forces in the Middle East.

The Arab countries show great interest in the coordination of the efforts of the Soviet Union, Syria and the other Arab countries to achieve a solid political settlement in the region, and to hold an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO.

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who is currently visiting Athens, again underlined Syria's intention to hold an international conference on the Middle East according to the Fes resolutions. Undoubtedly, this issue will be one of the main issues during the coming talks to be held by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Moscow.

Talks With Gromyko

LD280619 Moscow TASS in English 0611 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- Soviet-Syrian talks started in the Kremlin today.

They are being conducted by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, member of the leadership of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party and vice president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Khaddam arrived in Moscow yesterday for a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

PDRY ENERGY MINISTER MEETS ECONOMIC OFFICIAL

GF231952 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 May 86

[Excerpt] Brother Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun, YSP Central Committee member, deputy prime minister, and minister of energy and minerals, met in Moscow today with Comrade Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and chairman of the Soviet side in the joint USSR-PDRY Economic Committee. They discussed relations between the two friendly countries in the economic sphere and continuing the development of economic and technical cooperation.

Brother ibn Husaynun expressed appreciation for the honest internationalist support and the aid extended by the USSR to our country in various fields that contributes greatly to our national independence and to carrying out progressive social changes in the country and increasing its economic ability. Comrade Osadchuk praised the progressive changes taking place in the PDRY and PDRY-USSR cooperation. He expressed the hope for further successes for our country in executing the tasks delineated by the YSP for continuing economic development and raising the people's living standards.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON CHERNOBYL REPORTED

Velikhov Holds Press Conference

LD272207 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1742 GMT 27 May 86

[Press conference by Academician Velikhov in Moscow on 26 May -- recorded; questions read by announer where indicated, otherwise read by Velikhov; video shows Velikhov seated on rostrum flanked by two unidentified men]

[Text] [Velikhov] Which of the most important phases of work have already been completed and what is still to be done? Well, the first phase consisted of putting out the fire and stopping the emission of airborne particles. That was a very important phase, and the most important thing was the emission of airborne particles. I have already talked about what was done to achieve that. The second phase consisted of stabilizing the situation, as much as possible, and stopping all the radioactive emissions, so as to reduce the transportation of it as much as possible. And the third phase consists of creating the necessary barriers, full conservation, and restoring a working situation at the station and in the entire surrounding area.

[Announcer] Answering a question about radioactive fall-out on Europe, Academician Velikhov said:

[Velikhov] As for me, I have been preoccupied with the question of what nuclear war is like, and for me this is an exmaple of something that we are simply unable even to imagine, even in one's most vivid imagination -- what even a minimal nuclear catastrophe is like.

[Unidentified man on rostrum, interrupting] Limited nuclear war.

[Velikhov] So-called limited, yes. Because in fact, you see, material damage would be minimal. All the radioactive fallout, so to speak, would be kept in the area of buildings. I could quote this example: Imagine that Europe is now very worried about possible radioactive fallout. Say, the Netherlands is worried. In fact, as far as I know, a detailed explanation and estimates have been done by the World Health Organization, and a report made that says clearly that these anxieties were considerably overstated. But that is a matter for the government of each country, of course. On the other hand, imagine that, for example, in the Netherlands, one cruise missile sited in the Netherlands falls on that same reactor in Chernobyl. As a result, it would be 1,000 times worse in the Netherlands. No response is needed from the Soviet Union, nothing at all. That very incident would be 1,000 times worse, because today, on the whole, it is all localized in the area of the reactor, specifically, they are now combating this. But in the event of a nuclear catastrophe all of this would be emitted over a great distance. During the explosion the capacity of the reactor fell by 6-7 percent; this was due to the radioactive decay. You know, this is again going into detail, and again I do not understand when it went down. And secondly, decay does not happen that quickly; decay takes place slowly.

[Announcer] Question: How is the insulation of the reactor of the fourth power set taking place?

[Velikhov] First and foremost, it is being buried. There now exists a whole range, a whole series of places and methods for burial depending on the level of activity of particular fragments of structural components and what there is in that area.

The major burial will of course be the burial of the reactor itself and of everything around that building. We are going to make a large tomb with many layers of barriers.

[Announcer] What is the situation at the station now?

[Velikhov] Well, you see. First, if we are speaking of how many people are working, it is difficult for me to say because, in general, we are taking measures so that as few people as possible are working at the station -- only the essential people. But from the point of view of risk and from the point of view there are being fewer airborne particles, I think that there can of course be no question of thens of thousands of people working at the station. But probably, there are several hundred, I think, although it is difficult for me to calculate now. But of course, there are very many people working throughout the area because work is being carried out to trap all airborne particles; work is being carried out -- a great deal of work -- to create films on the surface because we are worried about the rain where we do not have drains, and to create appropriate drainage systems. And of course much work is already being done on this and in this zone it is significantly more safe. I must say that, unfortunately, little has been done in science on the level of providing a model for these questions, and the information which we have is contradictory. What is the interaction between concrete, sand, metallic structures etc. For this reason we had to very rapidly create mathematical models and conduct experiments. And at the same time the task was complex because it is stochastic in nature. For we really know very little precisely. When we buried the zone under this mighty cap we deprived ourselves of access to that area. For this reason questions continually arose of how to measure, how to extrapolate, what possible paths were there for a future development of events? And since we always had to proceed from considerations about the very worst, that is an analysis from the point of view of the worst possibilities, it was, as you will understand, a very difficult and responsible analysis.

How do you evaluate the role of nuclear power engineering for the further development of the world economy?

In the first place, so as long as there is uranium and it can be ignited, then I think that a great amount of energy is stored up in it. Indeed, we must find only totally reliable ways of combustion. Of course, the events in Chernobyl will influence our decisions as to how this should be done, on the technical means and on the organizational side, but I nevertheless think that nuclear energy production will play a large role in providing energy. People are saying that I have only been concerned with thermonuclear power engineering. In the future the opportunity will arise to make use of thermonuclear fusion.

In the interview which you granted us a month or two ago you spoke about humanism as the main feature of modern (?man). Could you say something about your work and that of your colleagues right in the accident zone?

I have to say, of course, that all those who were connected with the liquidation of the accident, particularly in the first few days.-- I did not arrive there on the very 1st day but on 3 May -- the very first days were, of course, extremely strenuous, and our work was very strenuous, and we really did work. Much has been written about it in the papers. You know, we all really worked very harmoniously day and night, sleeping very little because our main concern was, so to speak, to localize all the radioactive emissions and prevent any kind of possible negative development of events. Everyone really worked under the same -- be they minister, worker, or soldier. I have to say that the atmosphere was such that we were really sad to say goodbye when we left. But in practical terms, I think that I received about 10 roentgens of external irradiation, which is completely acceptable without there being any consequences -- and 20-25 roentgens of external irradiation is a completely acceptable dose.

Much depends here on the fact that it is important to use good filters, and to use them in the proper fashion. Everyone there has been provided with [word indistinct] filters.

The newspaper ASAHI asks: After the burial of the fourth set, how will measurements and investigations within the tomb be carried out? First, we have already introduced a whole range of sensors that measure the temperature and the radiation level, but in the future it will of course be necessary to carry out first and foremost thermal measurements, radiation measurements, and measurements of the gas composition. But this does not present any particular difficulties. I would like to say in connection with this that sometimes there are certain exaggerations in the newspapers, and in our newspapers too. They say, for instance, that the nuclear giant has not lost its might, etc. The problem is that, indeed, after the nuclear reaction ended -- and it ended immediately and there was no resumption -- there remains a residual heat release in the nuclear fuel. It amounts to something like 50 watts per kilogram at the beginning and now it is in the order of about 30 watts. If you realize that a person releases in order of 100 watts, then it is not really so much. But if you treat this fuel incorrectly, if you thermally insulate it -- like a person -- it can indeed overheat and there could be problems. On what scale? Let us say, the roof of the tomb would bear a heat load which is much less than that from the sun. And we can see today in the area of the reactor that the termperatures which we are registering using an infra-red apparatus are in general being determined by the sun and we can no longer perceive currents coming from the fuel.

Will there be problems of ensuring the safety of nuclear power engineering and will they lead to the strengthening of international cooperation in research into controlled thermonuclear fusion? You know, that would be logical. But, on the other hand, everything depends on the political climate in the world. As you know, the Soviet Union has proposed that international cooperation should be intensified in the sphere of controlled thermonuclear fusion and even that such a reactor should be built jointly so that all questions could be settled. But how the West will react to this we shall see. So far, the reaction has been in a certain sense positive, but there is no final decision.

Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has advocated enhancing the role of the International Atomic Agency. What can you say about this?

Well, I think it is a very important proposal and indeed we have set up an organization which can be, can do a great deal so that even now we may actively exchange experience. When the commission studying the circumstances of this accident completes its work we will discuss what must be done to improve the safety of atomic power and to ensure its safe operation. All the questions now being asked will have to be discussed there calmly and at an international level. That is why it seems to me a very important thing. But, you know, we are now working with the international agency in the sense that experts from the international agency have come to Chernobyl and have seen the power station on site, and I myself flew with them by helicopter, with Blix, the general director, and with Rosen, the American scientist, and with a number of other assistants of Blix. We flew to the power station, we were about 300 or 400 meters from the reactor, we looked at the reactor and the state of affairs there, and we have spoken about everything we were doing at the station. Apart from that, the Soviet Union is transmitting regular precise data for the IAEA. In the future we think all the atomic power safety systems should be stepped up precisely through the international agency.

The question of whether nuclear weapons can be destroyed altogether? This is a question that has recently provoked much discussion of various kinds of course, and unfortunately I have seen that many of my colleagues, scientists who on the whole have a positive attitude toward the question of nuclear disarmament and nuclear arms control, have been nevertheless skeptical in their attitude toward the question of whether humanity can and needs to completely rid itself of nuclear weapons. During the 2 weeks I have been at Chernobyl I have been completely convinced that we have only one option: We need to take the road of ridding ourselves of nuclear weapons completely. It is a hard and difficult road; the way to it is serious; but that is my absolute conviction. So, nuclear weapons should be completely destroyed.

Updates Death Toll

LD261814 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- Now, at a lapse of one month since the accident at the Chernobyl atomic electric power station, the damaged fourth energy-generating unit cannot spring unpleasant surprises, said vice-president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Yevgeniy Velikhov. He spoke here today at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists.

Yevgeniy Velikhov, who spent a fortnight in Chernobyl, told journalists that 5,000 tons of sand and other building materials, dropped from helicopters, reliably buried the the reactor which had come out of order. The station personnel and specialists are raising reliable barriers to aerosols, other harmful ejections in water and air medium, are busy with decontaminating the territory around the atomic power station.

The academician recalled that evacuation of the population from the 30-kilometre zone adjacent to Chernobyl began the next day after the accident. If the question of further operation of the atomic power station could be resolved within a few months, the return of residents to Chernobyl in the near future does not seem expedient. Velikhov said that the Chernobyl accident had already taken a toll of 19 lives.

The need of building up the reliability of all systems of atomic electric power stations, and above all, reactors, is one of the main lessons of the Chernobyl accident. This is all the more important that the USSR will continue the construction of atomic electric power stations which are planned to considerably contribute to the growth of the energy potential in the next five years and before the end of the century.

Moscow Radio on Velikhov Conference

LD270200 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1844 GMT 26 May 86

[Remarks by Academician Gevgeniy Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, at 26 May news conference held in the Press Center of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow; Velikhov reads questions then provides answers -- recorded]

[Excerpts] What precautionary measures were and are being undertaken for the safety of the population?

[Answer] As far as I know, a large-scale evacuation was carried out first of all from the zones in which there was any health hazard. Tens of thousands of people were evacuated and in these zones monitoring of milk is being carried out and animal products have been destroyed. In those zones there are simply no animals, and monitoring is being carried out in the remaining zones.

Also, those who were evacuated -- especially children -- are now undergoing medical examination and they will undergo checkups. As you already know it is forbidden to enter the 30-km zone, and this is an arbitrary 30 km -- sometimes it is farther. There are neither people nor animals there, with the exception of a certain number of wild animals that are not being controlled.

[Question] As has been reported, the level of radioactivity registered in the vicinity of the Chernobyl AES is considerably lower than the radiation levels reported by Western countries. What is the cause of these discrepancies? Could it have happened that the outburst of radioactivity was carried by an air stream over large distances?

[Answer] It was reported by Shcherbina's commission right away that only a certain percentage of radioactivity had been carried away. The bulk of all products of the reaction remain inside the housing of the reactor. Well, the housing has been destroyed as a result, therefore the concept of a housing is relative; anyway, it is at the site.... The cause consists, first of all, in the fact that measures to control the outbursts were taken immediately. In other words, there are now, again, in various spots, about 4,000 to 5,000 metric tons of different materials that have formed a kind of roof that is suppressing convective currents, even solar ones, so to speak, and, besides, an emission of any kind passes through the compound that has formed. That is why the radioactive outburst has been considerably reduced, in this sense, especially over large distances. It was exactly large distances that were an object of concern, therefore special measures were taken to make everything precipitate in the region of the station.

[Question] What assistance, apart from medical aid, have foreign countries provided to eliminate the consequences of the accident?

[Answer] There were many offers. As far as I know, a number of robots -- not many -- are operating there. I must say that in looking at this, I have the impression -- I was reading a great deal of literature at the time and was aware of all offers that you made to us -- that generally speaking, the whole world is not very well prepared for accidents of this kind. All understood that something on this scale might happen but the readiness was very inadequate. That it why it was very difficult, on the whole, to use the means that were offered to us. For example, we were offered metric tons of some substance, yet we had to produce dozens of metric tons on site ourselves to cover areas, to provide protection from dust and so on.

[Question] Are there any figures that describe the reliability of the RBMK type reactor, its safety?

[Answer] The ideology of safety of nuclear reactors must be such that an emission is always localized, and so I do not understand why there should be such figures. There is a figure that tells what a safe emission is; it is very small. As to the future of RBMK reactors in the USSR -- will they be closed, will protective casings be built, or will their use be continued in the same form? Well, I think there are two extremes. It is very unlikely that they will be closed, but of course this will accord with the commission's findings. It is also highly unlikely that they will stay in exactly the same form. At the moment all these calculations and discussions are in progress, and I think a decision will be adopted in the course of several months. There are no grounds for making any emergency decision, one must be made that takes all the data into consideration.

There were questions concerning sets one and two. At the moment there is in particular doubt that they are in a normal condition. The third set has certain links with the fourth. As I have already said, the explosion itself -- let us call it an explosion for now -- does not give rise to any great suspicions that the building is damaged. All the same, our main task today is to maintain the third set, which contains fuel, in a safe state. At the moment, I cannot say whether it will be operating. A relevant decision will be adopted.

Concerning whether people will return to Pripyat: Well, of course, being sensible, I hardly think so, in the near future, because one asks, why do this? All the same, we will take the strictest steps. It is one thing to work in order to prevent... to do work with a certain purpose, but why risk families? So I think it will be possible to do this after we have carried out a great deal of work, and I do not see any particular sense in a rapid return to the settlement.

[Question] What is the level of radiation at the station today, and what is the level in the 30-km zone?

[Answer] The level changes everywhere. Right now, I do not remember exactly all the points in the 30-km zone, of course. In Chernobyl itself we were working 16-18 hours a day. I worked for 3 weeks there, and I received a perfectly safe dose of radiation. So from the point of view of work, one can work there, if, of course, one takes the proper precautions. Finally, there is always the supervision by the doctors who monitor the doses that have been received and watch over your health. Under such supervision, work there, both in the area of the station and in the 30-km zone, is safe, of course.

[Unidentified voice] Any more questions NEPSZABADSAG newspaper.

[Question] Is there still the possibility of radiation increasing in surrounding countries, Hungary, for example?

[Answer] No, there is no such possibility. We are reporting along the whole periphery every day on what the state of affairs with radioactivity is.

Official on Radiation Monitoring

LD272247 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The Chernobyl AES accident: Are there any changes in the atmosphere at the moment? This question was put by our correspondent Vladimir Sokolov to Nikolay Pavlovich Skrepnik, head of the directorate of Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control of the Ukraine:

[Begin recording] [Sokolov] It is quite understandable, Nikolay Pavlovich, that after the Chernobyl AES accident people are very interested in the state of the environment, and above all of the atmosphere.

[Skrepnik] Naturally, and we constantly monitor the atmosphere. From the very first few days after the accident we have stepped up our checks. At the moment we have about 200 permanent stations and 30 additional, mobile stations engaged in this in the republic. In direct proximity to the AES and in the adjacent territories atmospheric monitoring is also being carried out with the aid of helicopters equipped with the necessary apparatus. All this provides an extremely accurate picture at any given moment.

[Sokolov] And how are these data used?

[Skrepnik] First of all by the governmental commission for the elimination of the consequences of the accident at the station. Second, these data are essential for the agro-industrial committee, various ministries, and many departments. Third, the data form the basis for maps of the radioactivity situation, which are necessary, for example, for the already widespread work on decontaminating installations and houses in the locality, and which are used by aviation in the destruction of rain cloud cover with the help of special reagents. The thing is that particularly in the initial period after the accident, rain falling on the Chernobyl station was undesirable in case radioactivity was carried into the Pripyat River by the run-off water. That danger has now passed due to the creation of embankments on the river banks and other measures. Nor is rainfall from clouds which have passed over Chernobyl desirable since it could spread radiation. As far as this is concerned it must be said that the aviation has very successfully destroyed cloud formations threatening rain. Around Chernobyl, from where I have just returned, the background radiation has fallen literally by a factor of four or five over the past 2 weeks. In Kiev, where in any case it was not generally high, and was completely safe from the point of view of human health, the radiation level has fallen further by a factor of two or three. And when one moves away from the source of the accident somewhat, the background level goes down to a minimal reading which can simply be ignored.

[Sokolov] But monitoring of the atmosphere has not been ended?

[Skrepnik] By no means, particularly since in the Ukraine there are two special stations which constantly send data on the state of the atmosphere to the IAEA for everyone's information. [end recording]

LIGACHEV ADDRESSES OIL WORKERS IN TATARIA

PM261326 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Asserting New Approaches to Work"]

[Text] Almetyevsk (Tatar ASSR), 21 May -- The reserves that must be brought into operation in order to make more rapid progress were discussed at the "Tatneft" Association, whose collective today met with Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The meeting discussed the results of the 27th CPSU Congress and the tasks of carrying out its decisions.

The party congress, Ye.K. Ligachev stressed, has generated an enormous response both within the country and abroad. In the responses to the congress, one can trace the idea of the crucial importance of the congress for the historic dispute between socialism and capitalism. At the same time people in the West are not stinting on words about the unfeasibility of our plans. They say we are short of funds and will not succeed in restructuring work within the socialist framework. But history has repeatedly answered such prophecies and doubts. After the October victory the inperialists forecast that Soviet power would not last a month. Yet we are preparing to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Land of the Soviets. In the thirties the bourgeois press called the first 5-year plans "speculative" and "chimerical." But the first 5-year plans transformed our country and made it a mighty industrial power. Immediately after the war against fascism people in the West said, not without malicious delight: "Russia will remain an economically vulnerable and, to a certain extent, powerless nation." But what actually happened? In the last 25 years alone the country's national income has quadrupled, social labor productivity has tripled, and the country's housing stock has more than doubled.

The Soviet people's dogged labor and the major successes in the economy, the social and political spheres, science, and culture have enabled our country to hit new historic heights. If one examines the overall purport of the ideas, decisions, and directives of the 27th party congress it boils down to making every effort to reveal socialism's extremely rich potential. The task is to make full use of the advantages of its economic and political system and its scientific ideology and culture.

The Central Committee believes that it is necessary first and foremost to be concerned to ensure that the atmosphere at the congress is carried over and spread to all party organizations and all society.

Preserving the congress atmosphere means persistently tackling the practical organization of work and preventing any disparities between words and deeds.

Living in the congress atmosphere means making full use of the ideological wealth of its program documents in order to improve people's labor and social activeness and their political and moral education.

Strictly adhering to the congress spirit means continuing the work to strengthen the party, increasing the combat capability of its ranks, unswervingly observing Leninist norms of intraparty relations, and mastering the Leninist style of work.

Strengthening the spirit of unity that reigned at the congress means ensuring that each and everyone struggles to the utmost to implement the party's general line.

This all requires restructuring, the need for which was stated from the congress rostrum. It is necessary to work in a new way. So today let us talk about what this means and what it obliges us to do.

There is one simple rule which unfailingly constitutes a component of the concept of working in the new way. It lies in embarking forthwith on the fulfillment of adopted decisions. Here the example is set by the party Central Committee. The CPSU Central Committee has already adopted major directives -- on restructuring the running of the economy and improving the economic mechanism in the agro-industrial complex and light industry, on fundamentally improving output quality, on the housing problem, on restructuring higher education, and on stepping up the struggle against unearned income -- in executing the congress directives. These and other directives are aimed at producing radical transformations in the organization of our socialist economy and in the social and moral spheres. That was how M.S. Gorbachev posed the question in the Political Report.

The crux of the matter is that acceleration must be ensured now, not after, but during restructuring. The successful implementation of the 1986 plan is the central task of economic, organizational, and political work. Unlike in the past, in terms of the rate of production the first year of the 5-year plan is scheduled to be on a par with the level of the final years of the 5-year plan. The way we start will set the tone. There is another feature too. When talking about plan fulfillment it must be borne in mind that this does not only mean reaching the planned growth rates. It is a question of timely deliveries, renewal of output, and of improving technical standards, output quality, and all indicators of production intensification. That is the criterion of working in the new way. That will be the practical starting point for restructuring -- restructuring on the move.

It is happening. In the first quarter total industrial output in the country grew by 6.3 percent against a 4.3 percent planned figure for the year. The correlation between labor productivity and wage growth has improved. Almost 2 million square meters more housing has been introduced in comparison with the same period last year. Livestock and poultry purchases have increased by 8 percent and milk purchases by 6 percent.

However, we must not delude ourselves. One enterprise in every four in the country and in your republic is failing to meet contractual commitments for output deliveries and many cannot cope with the tasks to reduce output prime cost. The oil industry continues to lag behind, although oil extraction rates are growing. In short, we will have to work more thoroughly to make the emerging improvements really stable.

You understand, of course, that this wholly applies to your republic's tasks and to the tasks of the "Tatneft" Association, Ye.K. Ligachev continued. From my talks with workers and specialists and from everything I have seen here I get the impression that you are aware of the demands pased by the time.

The country needs oil, the national importance of oil cannot be overestimated. Noting that the workable reserves in Tataria are running out, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee asked those assembled whether the situation could be rectified and economically justifiable measures taken to maintain oil extraction. Many people say that the situation can be rectified if, of course, we take vigorous action, actively utilizing all reserves and the immense experience that has been amassed.

The "Tatneft" collective has still not used all its potential and the production reequiping program drawn up in the association for the current 5-year plan contains old approaches in a number of fundamental avenues.

Take, for instance, the key problem of improving well yields. First, one's attention is drawn to the fact that the republic's oilmen have relaxed the work to improve well productivity by using hydraulic formation fracturing and erosion perforation methods. Second -- and this is the main thing -- new physical, chemical, and thermal methods are being applied on an extremely small scale. Over the last 5-year plan less that 0.5 percent of oil was produced through their use and in this 5-year plan you are planning to raise this indicator to just 3 percent. Such an important reserve for strengthening the raw material base of oil extraction as the opening up of petroleum bitumen deposits deserves serious attention. A considerable proportion of the reserves of this complex mineral raw material could be prepared for industrial development relatively quickly.

It would be naive to suppose that you, as professionals, do not see these problems. Moreover, since I have dealt with oil extraction questions in my time I well understand that certain of these questions are extremely difficult, intersectorial in nature, and require relevant equipment and materials in order to solve them.

Today it is a question of something else. In all these matters if the old approach is adopted it is possible to ask the Gosplan and various ministries many questions, and quite justifiably. But nonetheless it would be impossible in practice for the republic to resolve those questions without specialists. You say that an effective selection of composite chemical products is needed in order to increase oil extraction. But who should create those products but the "Soyuznefteprom khim" Scientific Production Association in Kazan? You say you need new technologies. So ask the specialists at the "Tatnipineft" Institute about it. Are there no reliable compressors, for instance, to introduce the in-situ combustion method? You know where to apply -- the "Kazankompressormash" Scientific Production Association.

So it would be right here in the republic to more boldly seek certain forms of direct cooperation, mutual responsibility, and interest, and well-roganized work among oilmen, machine building workers, instrument makers, chemical industry workers, and scientists. The initiative must be up to you.

And one more thing. The initiative of the oilmen of Tataria and Bashkiria in helping to build up productive capacities and oil extraction in Tyumen Oblast is of immense economic and political importance. It can be noted with satisfaction that a good start has been made to this great work. Life at the same time demands that you redouble your efforts and open up deposits in Western Siberia at the highest organizational and technical level.

After all, the purpose of working in the new way lies in being concerned about the essence of the job and end results. It is often even unnecessary to invent anything. It is necessary to simply make more extensive and better use of things that have already been found to be justified. Thus, for instance, the well-known movement "Oil Wells -- On Stream" launched on the initiative of D.M. Nurutdinov's team, is a good thing. It is wholly consonant with the demands of the times. Well-sinking collectives are linked by a single contract. Their moral and material labor incentives have been made dependent on end results. Need we abandon good working methods and seek new beacons at all costs? In general -- and this is not a paradox -- a careful attitude to good old experience must be a compulsory element in work in the new style.

It is very necessary to breath new life into socialist competition and strip it of its thick coating of formalism. Today it is necessary to develop competition which will really arouse collectives' creative powers and engender a real thirst for success among working people. High-quality output, sharp labor productivity growth, reductions in the material- and energy-intensiveness of articles, and the complete transition to financial autonomy are the goals which must inspire the competitors. On these paths alone, asserting new approaches to all management, we now can and must successfully resolve the problems of developing our socialist economy.

The 27th Congress put forward a large social program and outlined an extensive range of tasks in the sphere of improving the people's prosperity and developing culture. In order to fulfill those tasks it will also be necessary to approach in a new way the resolution of the problems posed here. One of the most important problems is the housing problem. Our housing program is not a promise but a demand. It is necessary to develop and implement concrete measures for solving the housing problem in each sector, republic, kray, oblast, city, and rayon, and at each enterprise and first and foremost to exceed the housing construction volumes planned for the current 5-year plan.

Considerable central funds are being allocated for this purpose and additional resources will be sought. And, comrades, it is necessary to make full use of the opportunities offered and to ensure the smooth introduction of housing during the year. It is no secret that this is very often not done, and Tataria is no exception. Furthermore, labor collectives must strive to earn more and contribute their own funds to housing construction, to make fuller use of local materials, to build more actively in an economic manner, and to involve future tenants more extensively in apartment construction.

Certain of the republic's major enterprises do not spend a kopek of their own funds on housing construction. Yet that is an additional and large reserve. And the funds earned by collectives will now be given priority in resource allocation and in the fixing of limits for contract work. It is necessary to more extensively involve the population's funds -- for housing construction through housing construction production sharing and for individual construction of housing, particularly in the countryside and small towns and settlements -- and to provide help to leading workers and young people in this work from enterprise incentive funds.

In Kazan I was shown how the decoration and outfitting of apartments is organized according to new occupants' orders, with the new occupants paying for any additional expenditure. This is a useful and interesting initiative and it should be developed.

It is important to strictly observe the principle of social justice in allocating housing taking account of workers' labor merits.

A most important part of the social program outlined by the party congress is ensure full food supplies to the country in a short period. Everything is subordinate to this goal. For its sake the management of the agroindustrial complex has been restructured from top to bottom. For its sake a new mechanism of economic relations in the agrarian sector is being created.

It is organized in such a way that in places where kolkhozes, savkhozes, and the subsidiary farms of enterprises and citizens work better, there too the stores and markets will be more abundantly stocked and the local population will benefit from more milk, meat, and other products.

In general, comrades, it must be stressed yet again that the party congress decisions and the measures taken to implement them are creating a situation in which any boost to production and any growth in labor efforts must invariably lead to growth in working people's prosperity. The party is establishing the most direct links between economic progress and its social impact [otdacha]. The entire purport of our economic and other activity lies in its concern for man and his welfare.

Ye. K. Ligachev went on to dwell on questions of cadre selection and placement. Here it is necessary to introduce definite new elements, he stressed. Needless to say, we must proceed from an objective assessment of leaders. This objectivity is only possible under conditions when his every step and his every decision are taken and made in full view of the working people. It is necessary for a situation to be created in primary party organizations and labor collectives which would prompt people to approach general work in a proprietorial way, to fearlessly voice their opinions, and if necessary, to help the leader with good advice and in some cases, correct him. It is necessary to hear reports from party, soviet, and economic leaders more frequently in collectives. In particular, this is very useful when carrying out the certification of workers of ispolkoms and other components in the managerial appartus as outlined by the congress. This is the healthiest basis for modern cadre work. The CPSU Central Committee secretary stressed that without extensive publicity, without principled criticism and self-criticism, and without every possible development of democratic initiatives in organizing cadre work and all our work it is impossible to renovate society's life. And those who think that now that the congress is over we will be called any less to account for not making a great effort or for inability or reluctance to heed the voice coming from the working environment and the heart of the people are profoundly mistaken. The storm is over, they say, now we must make it somehow to the next congress. The party will continue to pursue an active cadre policy not from case to case but constantly, resolutely, and consistently, strictly correlating the results of the everyday work of leaders with program tasks and directives.

The party will permit no slackening of criticism. Principled people, honest working people, and leaders who are really concerned about the job -- whether they have been in their post for a long time or not, it does not matter -- are helped by criticism in their work. The light of criticism and the light of publicity only irks those who are accustomed to working at half strength, pulling the wool over other people's eyes, and choosing the choicest tidbits for themselves. It is the duty of all party organizations to be concerned to ensure that this light of criticism should not be extinguished. To prevent a situation whereby people trim the wick but forget to fill the lamp with oil. And even if things reach the point of fundamental conflicts, as happens in certain collectives, there is nothing to fear. Disputes must be stopped, but conflicts arising on a profound and businesslike footing should, on the contrary, be seen through to the finish, to the complete victory of the new over the old and obsolete.

V.I. Lenin called for evil to be acknowledged "without fear but with the desire to reveal, expose, and hold it up to shame, to summon up ideas, will, and energy.. to firmly combat evil in order to start over again and again -- we will have to start over many more times in all spheres of our building, rectifying what has not been completed and choosing different ways of approaching a task." Examining questions of improving educational work, Ye. K. Ligachev noted that selfless and courageous people who are devoted to their work are the bulwark and pride of our society. Fostering such people and ensuring that their ranks are augmented and that each Soviet person becomes likewise is the essential aim of all the party's current educational and ideological work.

There is a great and very important problem to which our aktiv must devote the closest attention in the light of the congress decisions. This is to ensure the correlation of the interests of the individual Soviet person with the interests of his labor collective and those of socialist society as a whole. Our ideology and morality are imbued with a spirit of collectivism or, in other words, demand the harmonious combination of the indvidual and the social. Only then can the human factor be truly mobilized.

It is important that there exist in each collective the nourishing soil which alone can foster in people the sense of being genuine masters of an enterprise and masters of a state. Here too we need acceleration, which must provide the means of ideological impact and introduce greater creativity and flexibility into our educational work. The party congress particularly stressed that the individual approach to a specific individual is an indispensable demand which is now being made of the organization of ideological and educational work.

In practice for party committee this means that they must avoid gneral appeals addressed to everyone en masse. On the contrary, propaganda and all ideological activity must be geared precisely to individuals. Only then, as the saying goes, will they be dealing with people as human beings.

Noting the need to further strengthen the party's leading role, Ye. K. Ligachev stressed that this is a direct and daily task for all party components. Our party's recognized prestige does not mean automatic recognition of each party organization's prestige. Prestige must be won and constantly strengthened. Today genuine prestige can only be recognized among those who are working for economic, social, and moral results. The main thing now is to ensure that local party committees, primary and shop party organizations, and party groups act with increased force as organs of political leadership. It is necessary to make full use of the changes made to the CPSU Statutes by the congress. The CPSU Statutues represent the high norms of the party's everyday work. Each Communist is obliged to constantly check his work and actions against them. Each party organization must outline its plans and actions in strict accordance with them.

Ye. K. Ligachev dwelt on questions of the foreign policy activity of the Communist Party and the Soviet State. He stressed that the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress have clearly outlined the course which the USSR will persistently follow in international affairs.

The 27th CPSU Congress was a major political and moral victory for our party and raised still higher the CPSU's prestige in the eyes of the Soviet people and the USSR's international prestige -- that thought was a theme running through the speeches by V.M. Filippov, foreman at the Bavly Drilling Administration; A.K. Mukhametzyanov, general director of the "Tatneft" Association; C.N. Kleptsova, team leader of Construction and Installation Administration Number 51 at a housing construction combine; A.A. Fakhrullin, foreman of a Komsomol youth team at the Almetyevsk Administration for Oil Yield Improvment and Well Overhaul; and others.

From the standpoint of party demands the speaker analyzed in detail the state of affairs in their collectives and submitted proposals for further improving all work.

DOCUMENTS ISSUED ON PREVENTING UNEARNED INCOME

LD271447 Moscow TASS in English 1436 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- A system of measures to prevent unearned incomes that are derived by some Soviet citizens is envisaged in documents of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government, that were published here today. Their aim is to eliminate conditions in which it becomes possible to get unearned incomes, to prevent the appearance of such conditions and also to introduce differentiated punishment for those who violate Soviet laws.

As is known, conscientious work for the good of society should be the basis of the material well-being of every citizen in socialist society. Unearned incomes, that is incomes that are not a remuneration of socially useful work, are illegal in the USSR. They include theft, speculation, bribe-taking, abuse of office for personal gain, pursuance of a trade prohibited by law, etc.

The documents provide for increasing the output of consumer goods that are in high demand, expanding their sale to the population, satisfying to a fuller extent demand for various services, etc.

It is envisaged to further encourage the population to sell the surplus produce of personal plots -- meat, milk, eggs. Some restrictions on the number and type of livestock kept on personal plots will be lifted.

The decree issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR provides for increasing responsibility for extracting illegal incomes. Fines ranging from 100 to 200 roubles are introduced for the unauthorised use for personal gain of state transport vehicles, machines and mechanisms and also for the purchase of bread, flour, groats or other foodstuffs for use as feed of livestock and poultry. Persons guilty of petty theft will be fined from 20 to 200 roubles, if their offence does not entail criminal responsibility.

The stiffest penalties await bribe-takers. An official who has accepted a bribe faces a term in prison of up to ten years and confiscation of property. Repeated acceptance of bribes by a group of persons or one person is punished by deprivation of freedom from five to fifteen years. In the event of aggravating circumstances bribe-takers can be sentenced to death.

The decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on intensifying the struggle against the extraction of unearned incomes enters into force on July 1, 1986.

SLACKNESS IN ANTICORRUPTION DRIVE CASTIGATED

PM261300 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 86 First Edition p 2

[Correspondent G. Lebanidze article under the rubric "Party Life: It Applies to Everyone": "Does Everyone Like Order?"]

[Text] Georgian SSR -- A young worker from the Tskhakayevskiy Rug Weaving Combine was on trial. I have remembered his words, which I felt were sincere. "Today I stand in the dock for complicity in embezzlement. It all began with petty things, like the time when I picked up a spool of silk threat that was lying on the shop floor and took it home..." No, the young man in question is not the only one whose criminal path has begun with petty things. At first the pilferers' booty is just things that are lying around. Bigger things come later. Of course, the people with an irresponsible attitude toward the safekeeping of public property are also to blame here. As well as the people who have watched someone steal but have not uttered even a single word of reproach.

"And yet they really ought to have stopped them," B. Dzhikiya, first secretary of the Tskhakayevskiy party raykom, said.

The combine party organization and party raykom made a stern assessment of the irresponsibility of the enterprise's leaders. They were expelled from the party and criminal proceedings were instituted against them.

So it all began with petty things. At one time the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, aware of how very important it was to eliminate the negative phenomena noted in the well known CPSU Central Committee resolution on the Tbilisi party gorkom, started urging economic managers to start monitoring the recording of material assets and goods and their rational utilization. No doubt about it, much has been done. But this struggle must be stepped up still further.

Experience teaches us that embezzlement is virtually impossible wherever a strict monitoring system has been imposed. Take the "Tbilmoloko" Production Association for example: "The fact that we are struggling for the title of enterprise with waste-free technology and are striving to ensure the 100-percent utilization of local raw materials," Marina Kharadze, secretary of the association's party bureau, said, "forces us to keep a strict check on every liter of output and every kilogram of materials to prevent losses." This thrifty and rational utilization of material resources and the extensive introduction of the achievements of technical progress and of advanced equipment and technology enabled the association to double the volume of marketable output during the last 5-year plan period while boosting labor productivity 50 percent.

The party bureau's attention is focused on questions of order, discipline, and the safeguarding of socialist property. A commission led by Chief Engineer Z. Tskitishvili operates under it to coordinate the joint efforts of the administration and the party organization.

The enterprise has created reliable barriers to potential losses. Almost 98 percent of bookkeeping and accountancy work is done by computers. The enterprises's territory is reliably guarded. At the end of the workday all shops and stores are sealed and officially handed over to outside security guards. Only people who work there are allowed access to the shops. A store has been opened where any member of the collective can purchase any product made by the association. All this, coupled with the extensive educational work actually in the teams and shops, is yielding results. Every member of the collective is an active fighter for discipline and order, for the thrifty consumption of raw materials and material resources. For example, B. Samadalashvili, team leader in the lactose production section, has been awarded the Golden Medal of the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements for improving the equipment and assimilating new types of output. As a member of the people's control group, he takes part in organizing spot checks on the consumption of raw materials, electricity, and water.

"Tbilmoloko's" collective is not resting on its laurels. General Director D. Datoshvili, on his return from the 27th CPSU Congress, said in his speech to the workers: "Let us not become complacent. Every shop and every team must create an atmosphere to which the bacillus of waste and the desire to profit from the people's wealth inevitably perish. The struggle we have launched against pilferers must not slacken." A pertinent warning, to be sure. After all, this sometimes happens. Tbilisi's tea packaging factory was once the first in the republic to be honored with the title of collective of communist labor. The high standards of production and the cleanliness and order were gratifying. The strictest accounting was instituted, and even the tea dust sent to the Batumi chemical and pharmaceutical plant for caffeine production was weighed. The enterprise's territory was like a park with its shady paths swimming in greenery, its flower beds and lawns, and its rest corners. The collective was awarded several union and republican prizes.

As time went by, however, the adminstration and the party organization, citing the increase in production program, relaxed their attention to discipline and order and neglected recording and reporting. Under these conditions, negative phenomena swiftly emerged. All kinds of scroungers and pilferers had a free had. Little by little, the factory fell into the grip of chaos. The fire fighting inspectorate sounded the alarm. "Disaster is just around the corner!" But E. Malazoniya, former chairman of the republican State Committee of Tea Industry was, complacent: "There is going to be a fire? Rubbish!" There was a fire.

Even then Malazoniya did not lose his cheerfulness: "Come on, some packaging got burned. A matter of R9,500, if that..." It was established later that the losses ran into hundreds of thousands.

You might think that the misfortune would have forced the leaders of the State Committee for Tea Industry to set about imposing order at the enterprise. But it didn't. The republican People's Control Committee inspected the factory and again revealed masses of shortcomings. "Gaping holes and broken panels" were discovered in the fence surrounding the factory's territory. The premises were not fitted with fire protection systems. Finished products, raw materials, and other materials lay for months in the open, going to waste. There was no vigilant monitoring of the comings and goings of material assets. The controllers concluded: "Favorable conditions for embezzlement and other abuses have developed at the factory." Dishonest people take advantage of these conditions. Locomotive driver I. Kovadze and factory workers V. Khutsishvili and D. Rurua were arrested recently. They had managed to unceremoniously embezzle tea worth R3,600.

The state of affairs within the former State Committee for the Tea Industry (it has now been absorbed within the republican State Agroindustrial Committee) was examined at a session of the Central Committee Bureau. E. Malazoniya, first deputy chief of the republican State Agroindustrial Committee's Main Administration for Subtropical Crops and Tea Processing, was expelled from the party. He was relieved of his duties. The same punishment was meted out to A. Danduridze, first deputy chief of the republican State Agroindustrial Committee's Main Administration for Planning and Social and Economic Development.

Order is being imposed at the tea factories. Yet light-fingered workers enjoy an easy life in light and local industry and transportation enterprises. Facts testify that not everything is well in this respect at the "Tbiltabak" and "Tbilkonditer" Associations, the Batumi confectionery factory, the Tbilisi quilting factory, and a number of other enterprises. How can one fail to recall the words said at the 27th CPSU Congress: Who if not the collective or the Communists will declare for all to hear that everyone in our society of labor must work conscientiously and live while unconditionally observing the norms of socialist communal life, which are the same for everyone. What and who prevents this?

The local mass news media are also sounding the alarm about the poor state of affairs in a number of the republic's rayons. They sharply criticise party organs, ministries, departments, industrial enterprises, and economic leaders for failing to pay the necessary attention to preventing all kinds of crimes. It is important that this discussion prove useful and effective.

Does everyone love order? Not everyone. It is disliked by those who are accustomed to fishing in troubled waters. There are not many such people, however. So if everyone gets down to imposing order, a firm barrier will be placed in the way of evil.

CAMPAIGN CUTS ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION BY 25 PERCENT

AU270907 Paris AFP in English 0625 GMT 27 May 86

[Excerpts] Moscow, May 27 (AFP) -- A year after the first measures against the scourge of alcoholism, Soviet authorities have come up with some positive and sometimes spectacular results, without yet having succeeded in wiping it out. An avalanche of impressive figures has swept into Soviet magazines with alcohol consumption officially down by 25 per cent and "places available" in detoxication centers, according to the weekly OGONYOK. OGONYOK reports the sale of vodka down twofold, and that of cheap wines down fivefold compared with the first four months of last year. Sales outlets for alcoholic drinks have been reduced by two thirds, and in some regions are now closed on public holidays, it adds. Imports of Bulgarian and Hungarian wines have fallen by half, according to Soviet television.

ECONOMIST FORESEES SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN BAM ZONE

PM271355 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 May 86 First Edition p 1

[Doctor of Economic Sciences Professor G. Milner article under the rubric "Letter on an Important Topic": "Will We Repeat Our Mistake?"]

[Text] Moscow -- The 27th Congress speech by S.G. Kostenko, bricklayer and installation worker of No 544 construction and installation train of Amur Oblast's Tsentrobamstroy Trust, includes these words: "The party's directive on preferential construction of housing and sociocultural facilities is correct. That is how it should be. But among us, there is no great hurry to fulfill it."

As an economist directly concerned with the social problems of the BAM [Baykal-Amur Railroad], I can testify that the installation worker is right. Moreover, I am confident that unless a breakthrough is achieved in the near future in the development of the social situation, we will encounter many of the same difficulties on the BAM as are now troubling the Tyumen oilfields. Let me remind you that the USSR Gosplan was instructed to elaborate a targeted comprehensive program for the economic exploitation of the BAM zone (with the program going up to the year 2000). The USSR Gosplan appointed the Central Scientific Research Institute of Economics attached to the RSFSR Gosplan to be in charge of drawing up this document.

The draft program was submitted to the USSR Gosplan at the end of 1984. I will not claim that it has no weak points, shortcomings, or even errors. But the labor of a large collective of economists does, I believe, deserve to become the basis for defining the prospects for the development of the BAM zone -- at least as regards the resolution of social questions. Unfortunately people are in no hurry to heed the scientists' opinion either.

Take, for instance, the housing problem, an acute problem for the BAM zone. It is well known that at present the provision of housing for the BAM people is one-fourth lower than the average for the RSFSR. Moreover the quality of the available housing stock is substantially lower on the BAM, and half of it consists of temporary structures. The situation is not better as regards sociocultural institutions. This situation makes it necessary in the next few years to make provision for a highly substantial scale of nonproduction construction, above all housing construction, which is what the scientists propose.

The USSR Gosplan also collected the relevant plans from the ministries involved in BAM construction work. An examination of these plans shows that the volumes of housing construction which they would like to take on are not only insufficient to reach the republican average level of housing provision by the end of the century, but do not even allow for a simple improvement in the unfavorable situation which has now arisen.

Here the USSR Gosplan should take a principled stand in relation to ministerial intentions. But departmental interests prevailed. Thus according to USSR Gosplan calculations it is necessary to commission 16.5 million square meters of housing in 1986-2000. This means that even if not so much as a single hut or girder is demolished during that period, and all the housing commissioned serves only to increase the housing stock, the housing provision by the year 2000 will be lower than the average for Russia is even now! And if the temporary premises are intensively demolished (which we hope will happen), the scale of housing construction proposed by the USSR Gosplan will only maintain the existing level of housing provision. The increase will be only 0.2 square meters per person (in 15 years!)

The potential exists for considerably increasing the volume of housing and other social construction on the BAM even now reliable collectives of the BAM Construction Main Administration and other construction organizations are gradually shopped to other parts of the country as the railroad comes into permanent operation. Yet they could be redirected to build housing and sociocultural projects.

In our view an urgent solution is also needed to the question of a single client for nonproduction construction on the BAM. We think the Ministry of Construction in the Far East and Transbaykal Regions could fill this role.

It will still take some time to sort out the relations between the USSR Gosplan and the ministries, apparently. But the resolution of the BAM's social questions must on no account be delayed. Directives defining the concrete prospects for the assimilation and settling of this territory are about to be adopted. They must without fail reflect the requirement for preferential development of the social sphere, otherwise by the end of the century we will be unable to avoid losses running into many milions because of inefficient functioning of the production sphere of the BAM.

PROBLEMS IN ESTONIAN EXPERIMENT NOTED

PM280853 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 86 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed article under the rubric "After a PRAVDA Article": "What Is Hampering the Provision of 'Clothes for Those Who Already Have Them'?]

[Text] "Clothes for Those Who Already Have Them" -- that was the headline for a report in PRAVDA for 20 January on the progress of the economic experiment in Estonia's light industry. Let us recall that its conditions, drawn up with the participation of the USSR Gosplan's subdepartment for the study of the experience of the CEMA countries, a similar department of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, and the International Institute of Economic Problems of the World Socialist System, make provision for the utilization, alongside the country's own rich experience, of certain economic management "patents" originating in the fraternal socialist countries.

While speaking of the successes achieved by the Estonian textile, sewn goods, and footwear workers, PRAVDA also touched on difficulties and unresolved problems. Thus contrary to USSR Council of Ministers instructions on the conditions of the experiment, which provided for the wide integration of production with trade, the Estonian Ministry of Light Industry at that time had transferred to its control only one of the republic's wholesale bases and only five small stores. Although the fulfillment of deliveries according to product mix was established as the main criterion for economic management, and the gross value of output was assigned the role of an accounting indicator, it was, however, noted in the article that higher-ranking bodies were continuing to demand accountability according to the old system. The report also raised the problems of the sector's retooling through the stepping up of export and import operations and the development of direct ties with enterprises in the CEMA countries.

As P. Melnik, deputy chairman of the Estonian Council of Ministers, reported, on 13 February the problems of this experiment were examined by the republic's government, which decided to transfer to the Ministry of Light Industry another two wholesale bases and eight stores. This helped improve "feedback" between production and the consumers. Another important step taken by the republican organs after the PRAVDA article was the creation, under the Ministry of Light Industry, of an experimental design and construction organization for the modernization and updating of the sector's enterprises.

While expressing satisfaction with the measures adopted, we must also take into account the fact that they both amount to no more than the implementation of instructions contained in the USSR Council of Ministers resolution concerning the conditions of the Estonian experiment. The delay of more than a year in fulfilling these instructions is due first and foremost to interdepartmental contradictions: in this case, the intractability of certain leadership workers in the trade and construction spheres. Alas, in a number of respects departmental interests continue to prevail over state interests. Thus the gross output indicator, in the activity of this complex, is still basically the controlling indicator. "It has to be," people at the Estonian Council of Ministers say with surprise, "after all, the republic has to give an account of itself in terms of gross output, and we cannot do without the Ministry of Light Industry -- It accounts for one fourth of all our industrial output." The result: The sewn goods and footwear workers still prefer to produce "more advantageous" articles -- those which use costly material -- and try to avoid, in particular, producing goods for children. Yet the possibility of relying on different systems of indicators, in particular "net output," exists. These systems have proved themselves in the GDR, Bulgaria, and Hungary, as PRAVDA has informed the readers.

The conditions of the experiment presupposed that Estonia's light industry would be able -- as is the practice in a number of socialist countries -- to finance itself out of its own funds, and that includes the modernization and updating of production. But here too difficulties arose. As Yu. Kraft, Estonian minister of light industry, told the PRAVDA editorial office, although the necessary funds have been accumulated, it is difficult to use them, because of restrictions on construction materials, because of planning ceilings, and finally, because of the lack of high quality equipment produced in this country. It would appear that these "deficiencies" could be made good by means of skillful management: The conditions of the experiment provide that 80 percent of the proceeds from above-plan exports remains at the disposal of the Estonian Ministry of Light Industry for purchases of imported equipment. But here too the departmental approach is a hindrance. V. Kraft has already requested six all-union foreign trade associations to act as intermediaries in his export-import operations, but none of them, it turned out, has any interest in such "trifles": They do not want to get involved in a large number of relatively small-scale deals. So is the USSR Council of Minister resolution not a law for them?

Although the Estonian experiment has been in progress for nearly 18 months now, despite some positive developments there is still no possibility of really objectively testing the economic management principles which its conditions provide for, principles which are intended to stimulate light industry enterprises to work with more initiative and to a higher standard in conditions where the market is saturated with consumer goods, when the demand on the agenda is to provide "clothes for those who already have them." The speediest elimination of all the obstacles which hamper the experiment is a very important task. It accords fully with the course set by the 27th CPSU Congress of improving the economic machinery, developing socialist enterprise, and deepening production sharing within the CEMA framework. The course of acceleration.

BRIEFS

USSR STATISTICS BOOK PUBLISHED -- A brief statistical collection "The USSR in Figures -- 1985" [SSSR v Tsifrakh v 1985 godu] has been published. It contains data about the economic and social development of the USSR for 1985 and also a comparison with 1940, 1960, 1970, 1975, 1980, and other years. The collection contains some information characterizing the development of the economy and culture of other socialist countries. A comparison with captialist countries is given in a number of indicators. The collection has been prepared by the USSR Central Statistical Administration and has been published by the Finance and Statistics publishers. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1950 GMT 16 May LD]

NIKONOV ATTENDS RECLAMATION MINISTRY COLLEGIUM SESSION

PM211352 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 21 May 86 (Signed to Press 15 May 86) p 11

[A. Kuchushev report: "The Main Targets of Land Reclamation Workers"]

[Excerpts] A recently held enlarged session of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources Collegium, at which Minister N.F. Vasilyev delivered a report, was devoted to the tasks of land reclamation workers in light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions. V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, addressed the collegium session.

NORTH KAZAKHSTAN FARMS NOT FULFILLING PLAN

LD160925 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 May 86

[By commentator Valeriy Golubev; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades! Field work is now in progress from the shores of the Baltic to the Pacific Ocean. Over half of the planned areas have been sown to spring crops. Most farms are staying within the best agrotechnical time limits. Quality of field tillage is also higher than last spring. The land husbandry men's winter studies and the large-scale introduction of collective contracting and financial autonomy are making themselves felt. A changeover to economical methods of management, which have opened up good prospects for initiative, is in progress.

However, a creative approach and initiative do not by any means meet with support everywhere. A graphic example is reported by our correspondent for north Kazakhstan, correspondent Vladimir Lyashko:

[Begin Lyashko recording] The virgin land fields produce approximately half of all hard wheat being produced in our country. But for several years now, north Kazakhstan farms have not been fulfilling the plan for its sale to the state oven though growing hard wheat is a very advantageous matter economically. The teaching farm of the Tselinograd Agricultural Institute has been growing hard wheat for a long time now. Last year we obtained 15 quintals of Saratovskaya-29 per hectare obtained R346 of profit from each hectare. We obtained 12 quintals of hard wheat per hectare and received R604 in profits from each hectare. The advantage is obvious, but even that does not attract most farm managers. The point is that hard wheat produces lower yields. That is just one of its features. This lowers gross indicators on the basis of which the work of any farm is assessed. Therefore, the pursuit of the notorious "val" [gross indicators] has resulted in hard wheat taking up only 2.5 percent of the area sown to grain in Tselinograd Oblast. Nor is the state of affairs in the other oblasts of north Kazakhstan any better. [end recording]

Is this a problem? Not at all; it is inertia. Local agricultural committees, which have been given the right to determine the structure of grain areas, above all [tem boleye] in favor of high-quality wheat varieties, can and must overcome it.

Supporting the initiative of farms, not awaiting instructions from above: Herein lies the essence of work in the new way.

And as to increasing gross yields, the way here is intensive technology. It is precisely hard and strong wheats that are most profitable.

TURKMENISTAN CP DISCUSSES 'SERIOUS' SHORTCOMINGS

LD241432 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tasks for the republic's party organizations in eliminating serious shortcomings in the use of irrigated land and improving the efficiency of agricultural production in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress were determined at a plenum of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee that was held today. Its participants noted that positive progress has been noted in improving the efficiency of agricultural production. Nevertheless, it was mentioned that extensive methods of develop-developing production, a low standard of management of the industry, and poor exactingness of cadres have led to stagnation in the development of agriculture: The productivity of irrigated lands and the profitability of farms have fallen and production costs have risen. Considerable capital investment in land improvement is not producing the due returns. The plenum determined comprehensive measures for the efficient use of irrigated land, which has now reached more than 1 million hectares, and also to improve organizational and political work in the collectives and to improve party guidance of the management of the agro-industrial complex as a whole. The plenum was addressed by Comrade Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee.

ARMENIAN CROPS SUFFER 'SERIOUS' WEATHER DAMAGE

LD232121 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 23 May 86

[Correspondent Nazaryan report from Armenia, identified by screen caption, from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] The rainiest areas over the weekend will be the Maritime Kray -- where the cyclone is shifting very actively from China -- and the Transcaucasus, where rains will mostly fall in the mountainous regions and on the coast.

[Nazaryan] Literally within minutes, unprecedentedly intense and large hailstones wrought serious damage over large areas of orchards and vinyards, field and vegetable plantations. The final results are still being summed up, but even according to preliminary data a total of about 3,000 hectares of agricultural lands have been damaged. The stone-hard fragments of ice, the size of a walnut, had no trouble penetrating roofing slates, breaking windows and tearing down wires and lines of communications. Even car exteriors failed to withstand the pressure of this icy form of shelling. In a number of rayons in the Ararat Valley, for instance in Masisskiy rayon, the hail was accompanied by hurricane-force winds that blew off house roofs. Work to repair the damage is urgently under way on farms. [video shows battered fruit trees; huge hailstones fitting into the palm of the hand; dents in car hoods; holes in corrugated roofs and broken windows]

MOSCOW REPORTS PREPARATIONS FOR HARVEST

LD242308 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 24 May 86

[Aleksandr Ruvinskiy commentary]

[Summary] Specialists from the agro-industrial complex estimate that this year harvesting will start somewhat earlier as both winter and spring crops are ripening 10 to 15 days ahead of usual terms.

Combines are being prepared for the harvest at a faster pace than last year yet a large number are still waiting to be repaired -- the overall number of combines to be used in the harvest amounting to about 800,000. Last year the average time for grain crop harvesting was 3 weeks or more -- twice the optimum terms. Idle time caused by breakage is still considerable. This year 200 new "Don" combines will take part in harvesting, as a test before mass production of this machine is started.

Grain crops that have been sown according to intensive technology on 31 million hectares will be harvested and a supplementary yield of 26 million metric tons of grain is expected from them. Thanks to this technology the winter crops look much neater than in last years, as a result of weed control. In eastern regions herbicides will be applied for the first time during sowing to control wild oats.

CSA REPORT DETAILS CROP SOWING PROGRESS

19 May Report

LD210922 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] The RSFSR Central Statistical Administration (CSA) today reported on spring sowing progress on the republic's fields. About 54 million hectares have been sown with various agricultural crops and two-thirds of all planned sowing work has been done. The pace of work is somewhat ahead of last year's but fewer late warm weather crops have been sown in a number of areas than at the same time last year. Sowing operations on fields alloted to corn, grain, sugarbeet, and sunflowers are now coming to an end. Soya sowing is now starting in many areas. The potato growers have been working well recently -- to date over 1 million hectares have been planted which is 64 percent of the plan.

The USSR State Agricultural Committee has reported to us that in many of the republic's krays and oblasts it has been raining in past weeks. This has considerably increased the moisture supplies in the soil and created good growing conditions for both winter and spring crops. Seed is also now lying in moist soil in areas of Siberia where mass sowing of the main food crop -- spring wheat -- is under way.

21 May Report

LD221529 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1950 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] At the beginning of this week, various spring crops had been sown on two-thirds of the fields allocated to them in the country. This was reported by the USSR CSA. There is still more than half of the work to do in sowing spring wheat, mainly in Zauralye, Siberia, and Kazakhstan. Millet, buckwheat, and soya are still to be sown on a significant area, while the sowing of such crops as corn, sunflowers, and sugar beets has been virtually completed.

22 May Report

PM221440 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 May 86 Morning Edition p 1

[USSR Central Statistical Administration "Agricultural Review" compiled by O. Pavlov: "Land and Grain in the East"]

[Excerpts] The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that as of Monday, 19 May, spring crops had been sown over 94.8 million hectares in the country, or 66 percent of the area allocated to them.

This includes 51.6 million hectares of grain and pulse crops (excepting corn). Potatoes have been planted over 2,207,000 hectares and vegetables over 1,008,000 hectares. This corresponds to 337,000 and 31,000 hectares more than this time last year.

After several drought-stricken years the virgin-land workers of Kazakhstan are hoping for success this year. The expectation is based not on fine weather (a risky calculation) but on more extensive and, most importantly, intelligent introduction of industrial techniques.

But people must not allow themselves to fall under the spell of these favorable assumptions. Statistics show that grain production in a number of eastern regions has not increased for a long time and in some places is even decreasing. It should be noted here that while the capital-labor ratio on farms in Siberia and the Far East is increasing, the appropriate return is lacking.

MEDIA REPORT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

11-13 May

LD140305 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, from 11-13 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

11 May

SELSKAYA ZHIZN reports that farmers in southern Kazakhstan have started the sowing of soya, a valuable protein crop. According to the preliminary data, soya will be sowed in Kazakhstan on 34,000 hectares this spring. This is 20,000 hectares more than last year. The biggest areas will be sown in Kurgany and Alma-Ata Oblasts. (0500)

In Mordovia, the early grain crops are sprouting. The seeds of eared crops and perennial grasses have been sown. Potatoes are now being planted and intensively cultivated. Sugar beet, corn, and hemp are also being sown. Spring crops currently occupy over 600,000 hectares -- about 84 percent of spring plowland. (0600)

In Kurgan Oblast, early grain crops, silage crops, and perennial grasses are being sown. Potatoes are also being planted. Spring wheat sowing will start on a large scale in a few days. (0600)

The sowing of early grain crops is coming to an end in Tataria, a major granary of the Volga area, despite the fact that hot weather has now given way to snow. Peas and beets have been sown, and potatoes are now being planted. (0800)

Widespread potato planting is now under way in the Amur Oblast. (0800)

Kirghiz farms have completed the sowing of seed corn on 57,000 hectares of irrigated land. (1100)

Tashkent -- A farm in Uzbekistan has developed a method of re-using irrigation water drained from the fields. Mineralized and fresh water are mixed in optimal proportions, and the water is then pumped back onto the rice land. (1100)

Agricultural workers of the southwest regions of Belorussia have finished the sowing of spring cultures ahead of schedule and a week earlier than last year. Two-thirds of the cultures sown are cultivated here by intensive technology. (1200)

The vegetable growers of Kiev Oblast since the beginning of the season have supplied to the industrial centers of the Ukraine about 10,000 tons of early vegetables. This considerably exceeds last year's schedule. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430)

12 May

Grain crops have been sown on 50,000 hectares so far in Tuva, which is twice as much as this time last year. Zone-graded seeds of barley, oats, and wheat are being used. (0430)

Smolensk Oblast today completes flax sowing. The total area sown is 105,000 hectares. (0800)

Farms in the Mari non-Chernozem Zones are completing the sowing of grain crops. Agricultural workers are now speeding up the sowing of potatoes and vegetables, and are irrigating perennial grasses and long-standing cultivated pastures. (1100)

In Saratov Oblast, corn sowing has begun. This year the hybrid kolektivnoye 150 created by the selctioning program 'Sever' at the scientific research institute of agriculture of the southeast, a fast-ripening sort, will be sown. (1100)

Spring crop sowing has started on the 2 millionth hectare in Penza Oblast today. Three-quarters of the spring crop area are being tilied by a scientifically based system of cropping. Almost one-quarter of the grain area is tilled by intensive technology. They are to yield at least 1 million metric tons of grains. (1300)

Farmers in Bashkiriya have sown spring crops on 1,500,000 hectares to date. This is about half of the whole grain crop area of the autonomous republic. (2230)

13 May

Spring wheat and barley are growing well in Saratov Olbast. Farmers now have to finish planting potatoes and vegetables. Millet will occupy 300,000 hectares in the oblast. (0800)

Farmers in the south Ukraine have started tending the sowing of intertilled crops 2 weeks ahead of the usual schedule. This work has been organized with particular precision in Bashtanka Rayon, Nikolayev Oblast. (0900)

Kazakh farmers have begun mass sowing of oil-yielding crops. Semipalatinsk, Pavlodar, and East Kazakhstan Oblasts are engaged in sowing sunflower while the Urals and southern oblasts are expanding the area sown to rape and mustard. (0100)

The main region where spring sowing is taking place these days is the oblasts of the Volga region. Cold weather is hampering work there, but the pace has not slackened.

In Bashkir ASSR half of all the spring grain fields have been sown. In Mari ASSR, sowing of grain crops is nearing completion, and farmers are planting potatoes and vegetables. Farms in Kuybyshev Oblast have started corn sowing. (1100)

Ida Pavlovna Kalinina, Vaskhnil academician and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, says that 65 new strains of fruit and berries are being introduced. She says that one of the main problems fruit growers have is that nursery cultivation is poorly run in the country at present, with the exception of Moldavia and Uzbekistan. There are never enough materials for planting; there are no promising strains and strains that have been earmarked again for new areas, which are the most valuable strains. Now intensive-type strains are needed, to provide good yields in the first years after planting. (1100)

Early grain crops have begun to be sown in northeast Kazakhstan Oblast on an area of over 2,000,000 hectares, of which half is to be cultivated under wheat. (1300)

Sowing of melons and gourds has ended in Kherson Oblast. The area sown with watermelons has increased by over 4,000 hectares this season. (1400)

14-15 May

LD180427 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 14-15 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

14 May

This year cotton has been sown on about 2 million hectares in Uzbekistan. According to an Uzbek agro-industrial committee official, the sowing campaign is proceeding as follows: 22,000 drills [seyalki], 2,000 more than last year, have been used in the fields, and this made it possible to cover 80 percent of the cotton sowing area in 2 weeks in April. Vigorous shoots can already be seen on over 1 million hectares. This year nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers as well as mineral fertilizers were applied to land plowed in autumn and during sowing, for the republic's chemical industry doubled its output of nitrogen and phosphorus and there was no shortage of these fertilizers. This helped to offset the effects of the water shortage which are most pronounced in Kashka-Darya Oblast, where compensatory irrigation is to be used. In contrast, in Bukhara, Navoi, and Samarkand Oblasts a dense soil crust formed in the second half of April as a result of heavy rains followed by hot weather. (0320 GMT)

Corn sowing has been completed in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. Industrial technology is being used to cultivate corn on over 560,000 hectares. (0400 GMT)

Potato planting is coming to an end in Kalingrad Oblast. (0400 GMT)

Farmers in Lithuania have completed sowing of spring crops on more than 700,000 hectares. (0600 GMT)

Farmers in Issyk-Kul Oblast in Kirghizia have started planting potatoes. The area is the main supplier of potatoes in the republic, and 5,000 hectares have been allocated to them. (0600 GMT)

In the RSFSR half of the whole spring crops area has been planted with various crops. Work is now moving beyond the Urals where in the very near future sowing of the main food crop, spring wheat, will begin. (1000 GMT)

In Lithuania, sowing of grain crops has been completed. (1000 GMT)

Half of the sowing work has been completed in the country's spring fields. In the European part of the country late crops are being sown. (1100 GMT)

15 May

Mass field work is continuing on the country's collective and state farms. Spring crops have been sown on more than half of the area earmakred for them. During the past few weeks the rate of work has somewhat declined, due to colder spells. On the whole, however, sowing is proceeding at top speed. The winter and spring crops sown at an earlier stage are even developing somewhat ahead of schedule. Rainfalls over the past few days are facilitating their growth. The sowing of the main food crop -- spring wheat -- is now beginning in the main regions where it is under cultivation: the Urals, Siberia, and north Kazakhstan. Farms in the country's European part are completing the sowing of late crops -- sunflower, sugar beet, and corn -- and are sowing soya. (0800 GMT)

Orenburg Oblast has started mass sowing of corn. (1800 GMT)

Cotton sowing has been completed by Kazakhstan's farmers. It has been carried out by precision-sowing seed drills [seyalki tochnogo vyseva]. (1800 GMT)

Within the best agrotechnical time limits, sowing of fiber-flax has been carried out in Smolensk Oblast, which has the country's second largest flax field: 105,000 hectares. (1800 GMT)

Sowing of grain crops and pulses has started in north Kazakhstan. (1830 GMT)

16-18 May

LD190107 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 16-18 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

16 May

Land improvers in the Black Sea area have resumed work on the construction of the Danube-Dnestr irrigation system, starting with environmental protection measures. Mistakes and miscalculations that were allowed to arise in the planning, construction, and use of this major water artery led to partial salination of the soil. (0600 GMT)

A wide range of work is being carried out on the fields of the Ukraine. Sowing of seed corn, which has already been sown on 400 hectares more than planned, continues. Millet and buckwheat are being sown. The sugarbeets are coming in thickly. In the southern oblasts of the republic, cutting of perennial grasses for hay and haylage has begun.

About 500,00 metric tons of grasses for cattle feed have already been cut. (0600 GMT)

Winter grains have come into ear in Kirgiziya, where they occupy more than 250 thousand hectares.

Sowing of early cereal crops and pulse crops was completed today in Kuybyshev. They have been sown on an area of 1.200 million hectares.

Mass sowing of spring wheat has begun in Kurgan Oblast. The wheat fields occupy more than 1 million hectares. (0600 GMT)

Today collective and state farms in Tatariya are finishing early grain sowing; they cover 1 8 million hectares. (Moscow Television Russian 1030 GMT; from the "Novosti" newscast)

In the country as a whole, the 6-month plan for the animal husbandry workers was 76 percent fulfilled by 1 May. The best results have been achieved by the farms of Armenia, Moldavia, Ukraine, and the RSFSR. Since the start of this year, compared with the same period last year, in the country as a whole 500,000 metric tons more meat have been procured and over 1 million metric tons more milk. (1100 GMT)

In Latvia the sowing of grain and fodder crops is being completed. Over half the area designated for potatoes has now been sown. The sowing of flax and sugarbeet is being carried out in good time. Collective and state farms in the major western areas of Latvia have fully completed the sowing of spring crops. (1330 GMT)

Spring has posed a hard test to the farmers of Tomsk Oblast. Owing to cold spells and excess moisture in the soil, sowing started 2 weeks later than usual. (2004 GMT)

17 May

Spring sowing is drawing to a close in Bashkiria. Grain crop seeds have been sown here already on an area of 2 million hectares -- this is two-thirds of the republic's area sown to spring crops. (0600 GMT)

Pavlodar Oblast machine operators have started mass sowing of grain crops. This year the spring crop field will exceed 2 million hectares here, with wheat, the main food crop, occupying slightly less than half this area. (0600 GMT)

Sowing in the Altay is gathering pace. (0600 GMT)

Uzbekistan has begun lifting potatoes. (1100 GMT)

Corn sowing is in full swing in Orel Oblast. (1100 GMT)

The sowing of early spring grain and feed crops has been completed in Tatariya on 2 million hectares. New efforts have been redirected to complete the planting of potatoes and vegetables. (1300 GMT)

Omsk Oblast, which grows spring wheat on an area of 1.1 million hectares, has started sowing. (1300 GMT)

The harvesting of winter cereals has started on irrigated fields in Surkhan-Darya Oblast, Uzbekistan, where yield estimates are 40 quintals of grain per hectare. This area will be subsequently given to feed corn crops. (1800 GMT)

18 May

In the grain-growing areas of southern Uzbekistan, the first combine harvesters are at work in the fields. The average grain yield on one farm in the Termez Rayon of Surkhan-Darya Oblast is 40 quintals per hectare. (0204 GMT)

The agricultural machine operators in Kuybyshev Oblast finished sowing industrial crops today. (1500 GMT)

Early vegetable crops are coming in greater quantity than last year in Azerbaijan, Krasnodar Kray, and the Ukraine. (2000 GMT)

19-24 May

LD250413 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Mocow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 19-23 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

19 May

Tomatoes have been planted in Moldavia on an area of almost 20,000 hectares; the expected yield of tomatoes here is over 250 quintals per hectare. (0100 GMT)

Two new varieties of potato -- the (Vikhola) and the (Kaskad Polesskiy) have been introduced this year in the Ukraine. They have good taste qualities and withstand diseases well. This year, for the first time, (Vikhola) has been planted in Kiev Oblast. In the republic as a whole, more than 500,000 hectares of land are sown with potatoes. (0600 GMT)

Farms in North Ossetia began the first cutting of perrenial grass today. (1000 GMT)

The farms of Bryansk Oblast are procuring fodder which is being placed in summer stores for the fattening of livestock and in drying shops for the preparation of grass flour. The lands thus becoming free are being immediately sown with other crops.

The farms of Stavropol Kray are harvesting winter rape. This high-protein crop is cultivated in Kochubeyevskiy, Kirovskiy, and Georgiyevskiy Rayons where there is a yield of 400 and more quintals per hectare.

Tilling of potatoes has started in Kiev Oblast potato plantations. This year potatoes occupy 500,000 hectares in the Ukraine. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT; from the "Novosti" newscast)

Winter rape is being harvested in Stavropol Kray.

Grass mowing has begun in Bryansk Oblast.

The USSR National Economic Achievements Exhibition is currently exhibiting new crop breeds that are to be introduced during the current 5-year period.

More than 350 of them have already been zoned for next year. Belorussian specialists have created two new types of potato -- the (Dobro) and the (Otrada) -- which are now to be planted in that republic. (1100 GMT)

Mass haymaking began today in the steppeland and foothills of Stavropol Kray. (1300 GMT)

Mass harvest of perennial herbs has begun in Kirghizia. Fodder grain from more than 350,000 hectares is to be harvested now. Four to five harvests are envisaged in the valley regions, and two to three in the regions in the foothills. An average harvest of 800 quintals of hay per hectare is envisaged. (1330 GMT)

Today winter rape harvesting started in Dzhambul Oblast. In Chimkent Oblast, which was the first to start haymaking this year in Kazakhstan, over 400,000 hectares have already been sown. The same operations are to start in Alma-Ata and Taldy-Kurgan Oblasts. (1800 GMT)

Mass sowing of corn is being conducted in Kuybyshev Oblast. This year 50,000 hectares will be given for corn. (1800 GMT)

20 May

Soya growing in Maritime Kray has been completely mechanized on the basis of technology developed by Far Eastern scientists which makes it possible to eliminate the weeding operation: Sowing is preceded by herbicide application. (0030 GMT)

Spring crop sowing has been carried out on 500,000 hectares in Tselinograd Oblast. (0200 GMT).

Spring crops have been sown on the 4 millionth hectare in Orenburg Oblast. Potato Planting is being completed in Mordovia. Mass sowing of buckwheat is in progress in Belorussia where it occupies nearly 40,000 hectares. Preference is being given to a new strain, the Minchanka, which provides 20 quintals per hectare. (0400 GMT)

Corn sowing has been finished in Belgorod Oblast this morning. The area allotted to corn crops is more than 250,000 hectares. Intensive technology is being applied this year for corn crops. (0600 GMT)

At the non-Chernozem Zone of Mari ASSR, spring sowing is nearing completion; it has been carried out in optimal time limits and good quality has been ensured. Sowing of the last hectares is going on at the non-Chernozem Zone of Kostroma Oblast where the spring crops area is 230,000 hectares. Optimal time limits and good quality have been maintained here as well. (0600 GMT)

Kazakhstan: Sowing of grain crops is under way on the 10 millionth hectare. Over the last week, an area of 3.6 million hectares has been sown. The pace of the sowing this year is somewhat slower than last year as a result of unsettled, rainy weather. (0800 GMT)

Mass sowing of wheat began today in the Kulundinskiy Altay Kray and Barabinskaya steppes by Novosibirsk Oblast mechanizers. Intensive technology is being used on 700,000 hectares. Wheat growers here have pledged to harvest an additional 500,000 metric tons of grain from areas being cultivated using intensive technology. (1100 GMT)

North Ossetia farms completed mass sowing of corn today. Corn here is grown on an area of over 45,000 hectares of the best irrigated land. This year, farmers plan to gather over 200,000 metric tons of grain corn. (1100 GMT)

Spring crops have been sown on 500,000 hectares in Kurgan Oblast. After the rains, a spell of warm, sunny weather has set in. In order to speed up the pace of field work, the sowing units are being changed over to double shift work. Prompt servicing of equipment is being organized. Special attention is being devoted to work quality. (1904 GMT)

21 May

Spring wheat is being sown in Altay Kray; maize is being sown on 3 million hectares in Kazakhstan. In Moldavia, spring crops have been sown to over 500,000 hectares. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT; from the "Vremya" newscast]

Spring wheat is being sown in Altay Kray according to intensive technology on one-fourth of the total acreage, which amounts to 1.2 million hectares. A minimum of 560,000 metric tons of additional grain is planned for harvest from this acreage. (1905 GMT)

22 May

Sowing is under way in the east of the country. Some 94,000,000 hectares have now been sown with various spring crops. Apart from wheat, rice sowing is also still to be completed, with its largest area in Maritime Kray. Mass work is also under way on the soya fields there. Sowing of a number of fodder crops also continues. (0001 GMT)

Mass wheat sowing has begun on the Kulunda and Baarabinsk steppes in Novosibirsk Oblast on an area of 700,000 hectares. (0004 GMT)

Rice sowing has been completed in Chimkent Oblast. The crops cover over 20,000 hectares. (1100 GMT)

As of today, approximately one-quarter of the total acreage under spring crops remains to be sown in the country. This acreage is concentrated almost entirely in one region -- in the east, in Siberia, Kazakhstan. It is exactly here that the most intense work is being done on sowing spring wheat. Incidentally, the scale of cultivating this crop according to an intensive technology is growing significantly. (1100 GMT)

Lucerne is to be grown according to an intensive technology in Omsk Oblast. (1100 GMT)

Rice sowing has been completed in Chimkent Oblast. (1100 GMT)

23 May

Spring sowing is being completed in Saratov Oblast on the USFSR's largest millet fields stretching for 320,000 hectares. (0104 GMT)

Sowing of grain crops has been completed in Aktyubinsk, Ural, and other oblasts of Kazakhstan. The republic has 28.5 million hectares allocated to cereal crops, of which 13 million have been sown so far. Weather is bad; there is rain or snow everywhere. (0700 GMT)

Sowing of grain crops has been completed in the Aktyubinsk, Uralsk, and a number of other oblasts of Kazakhstan. Over the past day alone, 1.025 billion hectares has been sown to grain crops in the republic. (1100 GMT)

24 May

Spring wheat has been sown on one-third of its planned area in Kurgan Oblast. Work is being slowed by unprecedented rains. (0800 GMT)

To date spring crops have been sown on an area of almost 3 million hectares in Bashkira. This constitutes over 90 percent of the plan. Spring wheat has been sown on one-third of the area in Kurgan Oblast. Tataria's stockbreeders have fulfilled the half-yearly plan for the sale of meat to the state ahead of schedule. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT; from the "Novosti" newscast)

The harvest of winter cereals has begun in Turkmenistan. The workers in the republic are to harvest cereals from almost 100,000 hectares. (1300 GMT)

Spring crops will have been sown on an area of 2.8 million hectares in Bashkiriya by today. This comprises more than 90 percent of the plan. (1300 GMT)

The collectives of specialized vegetable growing farms of the Azerbaijan State Agro-Industrial Committee are planning to obtain several crops from each hectare. (1300 GMT)

Sowing of medium and late varieties of wheat cultivated with intensive techniques has been completed today in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan on 2.5 million hectares. This is 500,000 hectares more than last year. (1500 GMT)

Chelyabinsk Oblast has completed sowing wheat on 800,000 hectares. (1500 GMT)

The sowing of wheat for intensive technology cultivation has been completed in the northern oblasts of Kazakhstan. New high yield varieties have occupied 2.5 million hectares of the best lands. (2000 GMT)

Turkmen grain workers have already started to sell grain to the state. (2000 GMT)

Mass planting of potatoes is being carried out in Kemerovo Oblast. (2130 GMT)

JAN-APR STOCKRAISING FIGURES REVIEWED

PM211400 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 21, May 86 (Signed to Press 15 May 86) p 11

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "Stockraising in January-April 1986"]

[Text] The editorial office has received the USSR Central Statistical Administration's figures for the state of stockraising on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the country.

Farms in most regions have successfully completed livestock wintering and have ensured increased output and sales to the state of meat, milk, and other stock unit produce. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are now transferring animals to summertime conditions.

1. Production of Livestock Products

Indicators	Jan-Apr 1986	Jan-Apr 1986 as percentage of Jan-Apr 1985
Meat production (sale of livestock and poultry for slaughter, live weight), thousand metric tons of which:	6,406	108
cattle	3,807	107
pigs	1,637	108
sheep and goats	126	91
poultry	836	114
Gross milk yield, thousand metric tons	22,290	106
Average milk yield per cow, kg	758	107
Hen eggs, millions	19,213	107
Average egg yield of laying hens, units	74	104

Kolkhoz and sovkhoz meat production increased by 451,000 metric tons in comparison with the January-April period last year. Meat production increased on farms in almost all union republics except Uzbekistan and Estonia. The greatest increase in meat production in the RSFSR was achieved by farms in Penza, Belgorod, Sakhalin, and Kamchatka Oblasts, Stavropol Kray, Tyumen, Kurgan, Kursk, Tambov, Volgograd, Murmansk, and Omsk Oblasts, and Komi and Buryat ASSR.

The gross milk yield in this period was 1,204,000 metric tons more than in January-April last year. An increase in milk production was secured by stock unit workers in all union republics except Estonia. The greatest increase in milk production in the RSFSR was achieved by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Amur, Chita, Volgograd, Saratov, Voronezh, Tambov, Astrakhan, and Sakhalin Oblasts, Tuva and Udmurt ASSR, and Khabarovsk Kray.

Egg production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in January-April 1986 increased by 1.2 billion. The greatest increase in egg production was achieved by farms in Uzbekistan, Armenia, Latvia, Georgia, Kirghizia, Lithuania, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

II. Purchases of Livestock Products on Kolkhozes, Sovkhozes, and Other State Farms

Types of product purchased	Purchased during Jan-Apr 1986	Jan-Apr 1986 as percentage of Jan-Apr 1985
Livestock and poultry (live weight), thousand metric tons	6,359	109
Milk, thousand metric tons	18,893	107
Eggs, millions (all categories of farms)	18,718	106

The volume of livestock and poultry sales to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other state farms increased by 507,000 metric tons in January-April 1986 in comparison with the same period last year. In the RSFSR the highest growth of livestock and poultry purchases was achieved by farms in Penza and Belgorod Oblasts, Stavropol Kray, Sakhalin and Tyumen Oblasts, Buryat and Kalmyk ASSR, Tambov, Voronezh, and Volgograd Oblasts, Komi ASSR, and Kalinin and Omsk Oblasts.

Purchases of milk and dairy products increased by 1.1 billion metric tons in the first 4 months of 1986. Farms in all union republics except Estonia increased milk sales to the state. Significant increases in milk sales in the RSFSR were achieved by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Volgograd, Chita, Amur, Saratov, and Voronezh Oblasts, Altay Kray, Tambov and Perm Oblasts, the Udmurt ASSR, Belgorod Oblast, Krasnoyarsk and Khabarovsk Krays, and Tyumen, Sverdlov, Kurgan, and other oblasts.

Egg sales to the state in the period under review increased by 1.1 billion.

III. Production and Purchases of Livestock Products by Union Republic

Union republic — Jan-Apr 1986 as percentage of Jan-Apr 1985

	Production			Purchases		
	Meat	Milk	Eggs	Livestock and poultry	Milk	Eggs
USSR	108	106	107	109	107	106
RSFSR	106	106	105	107	107	105
of which the Non-chernozem Zone	103	103	106	103	103	105
Ukrainian SSR	108	105	108	109	106	107
Belorussian SSR	110	106	105	109	107	102
Uzbek SSR	98	110	112	109	116	108
Kazakh SSR	119	110	108	128	111	106
Georgian SSR	113	110	115	113	116	114
Azerbaijan SSR	115	102	110	116	103	102
Lithuanian SSR	100.6	103	116	102	104	115
Moldavian SSR	118	105	102	117	105	104
Latvian SSR	111	101	115	112	102	114
Kirghiz SSR	102	109	115	109	110	112
Tajik SSR	104	105	117	107	108	118
Armenian SSR	113	105	119	113	107	118
Turkmen SSR	118	106	118	116	106	111
Estonian SSR	92	99	106	92	98	107

In addition, procurement organizations purchased 140,000 metric tons of livestock and poultry and 118,000 metric tons of milk from the population's personal plots in the first 4 months of 1986.

IV. Livestock Numbers

As of 1 May 1986 there were 98.9 million head of cattle on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, which is 599,000 more than on the same date last year. There were 29.3 million cows. The pig population totaled 58.9 million, which is an increase of 1,448,000. Sheep and goats numbered 146.5 million. The number of poultry increased to reach 802.2 million.